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THE
ADVENTURES
OF
TELEMACHUS,

THE SON OF ULYSSES.
François de
FROM THE FRENCH OF F. SALIGNAC
DE LA MOTHE-FÉNÉLON,
ARCHBISHOP OF CAMBRAY.

BY THE LATE
JOHN HAWKESWORTH, LL. D.

VOL. I.

PARIS,
SOLD BY BOSSANGE, MASSON AND BESSON,
XII — M. DCCCIV.

LAS
AVENTURAS
DE
TELÉMACO,
HIJO DE ULISES.

POR FRANCISCO SALIGNAC
DE LA MOTHE-FÉNÉLON,
ARZOBISPO DE CAMBRAY.

TRADUCIDO DEL ORIGINAL FRANCES.

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THE ADVENTURES
OF
TELEMACHUS.

AVENTURAS
DE
TELÉMACO.

VOL. I.

A

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK I.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS, conducted by Minerva under the likeness of Mentor, lands, after having suffered shipwreck, upon the island of the Goddess Calypso, who was still regretting the departure of Ulysses. The Goddess receives him favourably, conceives a passion for him, offers him immortality, and inquires his adventures. He relates his voyage to Pylos and Lacedæmon; his shipwreck on the coast of Sicily; the danger he was in of being offered as a sacrifice to the manes of Anchises; the assistance which Mentor and he gave Acestes against an incursion of barbarians, and the gratitude of the king, who, to reward their service, gave them a Tyrian vessel that they might return to their country.

THE grief of Calypso for the departure of Ulysses would admit of no comfort; and she regretted her immortality, as that which could only perpetuate affliction, and aggravate calamity by despair: her grotto no more echoed with the music of her voice; and her nymphs waited at a distance, with timidity and silence. She often wandered alone along the borders of her island amidst the luxuriance of a perpetual spring; but the beauties that bloomed around her, instead of soothing her grief, only impressed more strongly upon her mind the idea of Ulysses, who had been so often the companion of her walk. Sometimes she stood motionless upon the beach; and while her eyes were fixed on that part of the horizon, where the lessening bark of the hero at length disappeared, they overflowed with tears. Here she was one day surprised with the sudden appearance of a shipwreck: broken benches and oars lay scattered about upon the sand; and a rudder, a mast, and some cordage, were floating near the shore. Soon after she perceived at a distance two men, one of whom appeared to be ancient, and in the other,

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO I.

SUMAR

TELÉMACO, hijo de Ulises, acompañado de Minerva, disfrazada en el traje de Mentor, llega, arrojado de una tempestad, á la Isla de Calipso y es recibido con acogimiento muy cortés. Ruegale Calipso que le haga relacion de sus sucesos; él la obedece, y empieza la narracion de su partida de Itaca. Huye Telémaco de encontrar con las armadas de los Troyanos, y apuerta á Sicilia. Es presentado á Acestes, que lo quiere sacrificar sobre el sepulcro de Anchises. Mentor predice á Acestes, que dentro de tres dias será atacado de ciertos bárbaros, y le aconseja que se prevenga. Salva la vida ésta predicción á Mentor y á Telémaco. Vuélvense á embarcar ambos en un baxel Fenicio, que es apresado por algunos Egipcios, los quales le conducen á Egipto.

No podia Calipso consolarse sobre la partida de Ulises: hacíala el ser inmortal que se tuviera por infelice en su pena. Ya no resonaba su gruta con el canto apacible de su voz; y las Ninfas que la servian, no se atrevian á hablarla. Paseábase sola de ordinario en los floridos prados, de los quales toda su Isla estaba adornada, ceñida de una primavera perpetua; pero aquellas bellas florestas, léjos de mitigar sus desconsuelos, le traian á la memoria el funesto acuerdo de Ulises, á quien en ellas mismas habia tantas veces tenido cerca de sí. Muchas veces quedaba inmoble sobre la ribera del mar, que tambien con sus lágrimas bañaba, y estaba siempre vuelta ácia aquella parte, por la qual el baxel de Ulises, hendiendo la agua, se le habia ausentado de los ojos. Notó improvisamente las despedazadas reliquias de una nave que habia naufragado, hechos trozos los bancos de los remeros, esparcidos acá, y allá algunos remos sobre la arena, un timon, un árbol, y algunos cables sobre la playa. luego á lo léjos descubrió dos humbres, de los quales uno parecia anciano, y el otro, bien que jóven, se

although a youth, she discovered a strong resemblance of Ulysses; the same benevolence and dignity were united in his aspect, his stature was equally, tall, and his port majestic. The goddess knew immediately that this was Telemachus; but, notwithstanding the penetration of divine sagacity, she could not discover who was his companion; for it is the prerogative of superior deities to conceal whatever they please from those of a lower class; and it was the pleasure of Minerva, who accompanied Telemachus in the likeness of Mentor, to be concealed from Calypso. Calypso, however, rejoiced in the happy shipwreck, which had restored Ulysses to her wishes in the person of his son. She advanced to meet him; and affecting not to know him, « How hast thou presumed, » said she, « to land on this island? Knowest thou not, that from my dominions no daring intruder departs unpunished? » By this menace she hoped to conceal the joy which glowed in her bosom, and which she could not prevent from sparkling in her countenance.

« Whoever thou art, » replied Telemachus; « whether thou art indeed a goddess, or whether, with all the appearance of divinity, thou art yet mortal; canst thou regard with insensibility the misfortunes of a son, who, committing his life to the caprice of the winds and waves in search of a father, has suffered shipwreck against these rocks? » « Who then is that father, whom thou seekest? » replied the goddess. « He is one of the confederate kings, » answered Telemachus, « who after a siege of ten years, laid Troy in ashes, and his name is Ulysse; a name which he has rendered famous by his prowess, and yet more by his wisdom, not only through all Greece, but to the remotest boundaries of Asia. This Ulysses, the mighty and the wise, is now a wanderer on the deep, the sport of tempests which no force can resist, and the prey of dangers which no sagacity can elude: his country seems to fly before him; Penelope, his wife, despairs at Ithaca of his return; and I, though equally destitute of hope, pursue him through all the perils that he has past, and seek him upon every coast: I seek him; but alas! perhaps the sea has already closed over him for ever! O goddess, compassionate our

semejaba á Ulises. El tenia su suavidad, su viveza, junto con su estatura y con su majestuoso ademan. Presto entendió la diosa que este era Telémaco, hijo de aquel héroe; pero aunque sobrepuyen con gran ventaja los Dioses en él conocimiento á los hombres, no pudo penetrar quien era aquel anciano venerable; porque ocultan los dioses superiores todo lo que les place á los inferiores; y Minerva, que acompañaba á Telémaco baxo de la figura de Mentor, no queria que la conociera Calipso. Esta entrè tanto se alegraba consigo de un naufragio, que conducia á su Isla al hijo de Ulises, tan semejante á su padre. Adelantóse ácia él, y no mostrando que le conocia: ¿De dónde viene, le dixo, esta vuestra temeridad de llegar á mi Isla? Jóven forastero, sabed, que nadie se introduce en mi Imperio sin que experimente el rigor de su justo castigo. Baxo de la amenaza de estas palabras se esforzaba á encubrir la alegría del corazon, que á su pesar se le descubría en el rostro.

O vos, qualquiera que seais, le respondió Telémaco, muger mortal, ó por ventura diosa (aunque diosa os creará qualquiera que llegue á veros), ¿no os compadecereis de la desventura de un hijo, que caminando en busca de su padre, á discrecion del mar y de los vientos, ha visto destrozarse su nave en vuestros escollos? ¿Y quién es, replicó la diosa, ese vuestro padre, á quien buskais? Se llama Ulises, respondió Telémaco, y es uno de los Reyes, que después de un asedio de diez años, han abatido la famosa Troya. Su nombre ha sido célebre en toda la Grecia, y el Asia por su valor heroico en las batallas, y mas aun por la sabiduría de sus consejos. Al presente, vágando por el espacio vasto de los mares, ha corrido por los mas horribles escollos: parece que su patria va fugitiva de él: Penélope su esposa, y yo que soy su hijo, hemos perdido ya toda la esperanza de volverle á ver. Yo navego, corriendo acá y allá, entre riesgos iguales á los suyos, por saber dónde se halla. ¿Mas qué digo? Tal vez ahora le sepultó ya el mar en sus insondables abismos. Compadecedos, jó diosa! de nuestras desventuras; y si teneis noticia de lo que

distress ; and , if thou knowest what the fates have wrought , either to save or to destroy Ulysses , vouchsafe this knowledge to Telemachus his son ! »

Such force of eloquence , such maturity of wisdom , and such blooming youth , filled the bosom of Calypso with astonishment and tenderness : she gazed upon him with a fixed attention ; but her eyes were still unsatisfied , and she remained some time silent. At length she said , « We will acquaint Telemachus with the adventures of his father ; but the story will be long : it is now time that you should repair that strength by rest , which has been exhausted by labour. I will receive you to my dwelling as my son ; you shall be my comfort in this solitude ; and , if you are not voluntarily wretched , I will be your felicity. »

Telemachus followed the goddess , who was encircled by a crowd of young nymphs , among whom she was distinguished by the superiority of her stature , as the towering summit of a lofty oak is seen , in the midst of a forest , above all the trees that surround it. He was struck with the splendour of her beauty , the rich purple of her long and flowing robe , her hair that was tied with graceful negligence behind her , and the vivacity and softness that were mingled in her eyes. Mentor followed Telemachus , modestly silent , and looking downward. When they arrived at the entrance of the grotto , Telemachus was surprised to discover , under the appearance of rural simplicity , whatever could captivate the sight. There was , indeed , neither gold nor silver , nor marble ; no decorated columns , no paintings , no statues were to be seen ; but the grotto consisted of several vaults cut in the rock ; the roof was embellished with shells and pebbles ; and the want of tapestry was supplied by the luxuriance of a young vine , which extended its branches equally on every side. Here the heat of the sun was tempered by the freshness of the breeze ; the rivulets that , with soothing murmurs , wandered through meadows of intermingled violets and amaranth , formed innumerable baths that were pure and transparent as crystal ; the verdant carpet which nature had spread round the grotto , was adorned with a thousand flowers ; and , at a small dis-

obró el destino para salvar à Ulises, ó perderlo dignos de que lo entienda Telémaco su hijo.

Atonita Calipso, y enternecida, advirtiéndole tanta sabiduría y elocuencia en una juventud tan vivaz, no podía saciarse de mirarlo, y estabase en silencio. Finalmente le dixo así: Telémaco, yo os avisaré de lo que ha sucedido á vuestro padre; pero es larga la historia que debo referiros. Tiempo es que reposeis de todas vuestras fatigas: venid á mi habitacion, donde os acogeré como á hijo mio: venid, vos seréis mi consuelo en esta soledad, y tendréis de mi mano vuestra felicidad, con tal que acerteis á gozarla.

Telémaco seguia á la diosa, rodeada de una tropa de Ninfas de poca edad, sobre las quales ella se levantaba con toda la cabeza, como una grande encina en una selva levanta sus ramas frondosas sobre los demas árboles que la rodean. Dábale admiración el esplendor brillante de su hermosura: la rica púrpura de su ropage largo y ondoso; su cabello anudado atrás con negligencia, pero no sin gracia: el fuego, que en los ojos le centelleaba, y la dulzura con que se templaba su vivacidad. Seguia Mentor á Telémaco con los ojos baxos, y con un modesto silencio. Llegaron á la puerta de la gruta de Calipso, en donde se asombró Telémaco al ver con una apariencia de rústica sencillez quanto en extremo puede deleitar los ojos. No se veia allí ni oro, ni plata, ni mármol, ni columnas, ni quadros, ni colosos. Estaba la gruta entallada en la roca, formándose una bóveda embutida de piedrezuelas y de pequeñas conchas, y adornándola una vid nueva, que igualmente extendia por todos lados sus flexíbles pámpanos. Los apacibles zéfiros, á despecho de los ardientes rayos del sol, mantenian en aquel sitio una deliciosa frescura. Las fuentes, que corrian con suave murmullo sobre los prados cubiertos de amarantos y violetas, formaban en ciertos lugares unos baños tan puros y tan claros como el cristal. Mil flores, que salian de sus tiernos cogollos, esmaltaban aquella verdura, de que la gruta

4 TELEMACHUS. BOOK I.

2 tance, there was a wood of those trees that in every
 season unfold new blossoms, which diffuse (ambrosial)
 3 fragrance, and ripen into golden (fruit). In this wood,
 which was impervious to the rays of the sun, and
 4 heightened the beauty of the adjacent meadows by an
 agreeable opposition of light and shade, nothing was
 to be heard but the melody of birds, or the fall of wa-
 ter, which, precipitating from the summit of a rock,
 was dashed into foam below, where, forming a small
 rivulet, it glided hastily over the meadow.

The grotto of Calypso was situated on the declivity
 of an hill, and commanded a prospect of the sea, so-
 metimes smooth, peaceful, and limpid; sometimes
 swelling into mountains, and breaking with idle rage
 against the shore. At another view a river was disco-
 vered, in which were many islands, surrounded with
 limes that were covered with flowers, and poplars that
 5 raised (their heads) to the clouds: the streams which
 6 formed those islands seemed to stray through (the fields)
 with a kind of sportful wantonness; some rolled along
 in translucent waves with a tumultuous rapidity; so-
 me glided away in silence with a motion that was
 scarce perceptible; and others, after a long circuit,
 turned back, as if they wished to issue again from
 7 their source, and were unwilling to quit the (paradise)
 8 through which they flowed. The distant hills and
 mountains hid their summits in the (blue vapours) that
 hovered over them, and diversified the horizon with
 9 cloudy figures that were (equally pleasing and roman-
 10 tic). The mountains that were less remote, were cov-
 red with vines, the branches of which were interwoven
 with each other, and hung down in festoons; the gra-
 pes, which surpassed in lustre the richest purple, were
 too exuberant to be concealed by the foliage, and the
 branches bowed under the weight of the fruit. The fig
 the olive, the pomegranate, and other trees without
 number, overspread the plain; so that the whole
 country had the appearance of a garden (of infinite
 11 variety and boundless extent.)

The goddess, having displayed this profusion of
 beauty to Telemachus, dismissed him: « Go now, »

estaba rodeada. Hallábase allí un bosque de aquellos árboles; que producen pomos de oro) cuya flor, renovándose en todos tiempos, esparce la fragancia mas suave que pueda percibirse. Parecíame que él coronaba las praderías mas agraciadas, y formaba una noche, cuya jurisdiccion no osaban penetrar los ardores del sol. Jamás allí se oía sino el donoso canto de los paxarillos, ó el ruido de un arroyo, que despeñándose de la cima de un risco, y dando grandes saltos, y haciendo mucha espuma, corría fugitivo al traves del prado.

La gruta de la diosa estaba en el pendiente de un collado. De aquel sitio se descubria el mar, á veces claro y llano como un espejo, á veces locamente encruelecido contra las rocas, en quienes se estrellaba bramando, y encrespando sus ondas como montañas; y de un otro lado se descubria un rio, en el qual se formaban algunas Islas, rodeadas de tejos floridos, y de álamos gigantes, que levantaban sus soberbias cimas á idea de meterlas en las nubes para robar el dia. Parecia que los diversos brazos, que formaban aquellas Islas, jugueteaban en la campaña. Algunos impeñan con rapidez sus aguas; otros eran apacibles y sosegados, y otros con largos giros se volvian atras en busca de su fuente; y parecia que no se podia alejar del hechizo de sus riveras. Notábanse á lo léjos colinas y montañas, que se escondian entre las nubes, y que con su caprichosa figura formaban para gusto de los ojos un muy desigual orizonte. Estaban revestidos los vecinos montes de pámpanos lozanos, que se descolgaban todos entretexidos con sus racimos: la uva mas luciente que la púrpura, no podia ocultarse baxo de la espesura de la frondosa vid, á quien oprimia su fruto: cubrian la campaña las higueras, olivos, y ganados, con la selva infinita de otros frutales, los quales componian un dilatadísimo jardin.

Habiendo mostrado Calipso todas estas naturales bellezas á Telémaco, le dixo de ésta suerte: Tiempo

said she, « and refresh yourself, and change your apparel, which is wet : I will afterwards see you again, and relate such things as shall not amuse your ear only, but affect your heart. » She then caused him to enter, with his friend, into the most secret recess of a grotto adjoining to her own : here the nymphs had already kindled a fire with some billets of cedar, which perfumed the place, and had left change of apparel for the new guests. Telemachus, perceiving that a tunic of the finest wool, whiter than snow, and a purple robe richly embroidered with gold, were intended for him, contemplated the magnificence of his dress with a pleasure to which young minds are easily betrayed.

Mentor perceived his weakness, and reproved it : « Are these then, » said he, « O Telemachus, such thoughts as become the son of Ulysses ? Be rather studious to appropriate the character of thy father, and to surmount the persecutions of fortune. The youth, who, like a woman, loves to adorn his person, has renounced all claim to wisdom and to glory : glory is due to those only who dare to associate with pain, and have trampled pleasure under their feet. »

Telemachus answered with a sigh ; « May the gods destroy me, rather than suffer me to be enslaved by voluptuous effeminacy ! No ; the son of Ulysses shall never be seduced by the charms of enervating and inglorious ease ! but how gracious is heaven, to have directed us, destitute and shipwrecked, to this goddess, or this mortal, who has loaded us with benefits ! »

« Fear rather, » replied Mentor, « lest her wiles should overwhelm thee with ruin ; fear her deceitful blandishments more than the rocks on which thou hast suffered shipwreck ; for shipwreck and death are less dreadful than those pleasures by which virtue is subverted. Believe not the tales which she shall relate : the presumption of youth hopes all things from itself, and however impotent, believes it has power over every event : it dreams of security in the midst of danger,

es que troqueis de vestido, porque está muy mojado el que traeis : reposad, que ya nos volverémos á ver, y os contaré sucesos, que no podréis oirlos sin que se os enternezca el corazon. Hizo luego que entrara con Mentor en la mas retirada y oculta estancia de una otra gruta, vecina á aquella, en que tenia ella su habitacion. Habian cuidado las Ninfas de encender allí un grande fuego de oloroso cedro, cuya suave fragancia por todas partes se difundia, y habian dexado vestidos para ambos forasteros y nuevos huéspedes. Viendo Telémaco, que estaba destinado para él un jubon de finísima lana, que afrentaba con su blancura la de la misma nieve, y un vestido de púrpura bordada, se dexó llevar de aquel gusto, que es tan natural en un jóven, reparando en aquella magnificencia.

Mentor entónces con voz grave y severa : ¿Son estos por ventura, le dixo, los pensamientos que deben emplear el corazon del hijo de Ulises? Pensad ántes en mantener la alta reputacion de vuestro padre, y vencer la fortuna que os persigue. Es indigno de la virtud y gloria aquel jóven que gusta de vestir vanamente, de la suerte que una muger. No se debe la gloria sino es á un corazon, que sabe tolerar las fatigas y despreciar los gustos.

Primero, respondió suspirando Telémaco, me quiten la vida los dioses, que permitan que de mi pecho se apodere el deleite, y la afeminacion. No, no, nunca el hijo de Ulises se rendirá al alhago de una vida blanda y afeminada. ¿Mas qué favor del Cielo, despues de nuestro naufragio, nos ha hecho hallar á esta diosa, ó esta muger que nos colma de tantos bienes?

Temed, replicóle Mentor, que no os colme de males, temed de las dulzuras engañosas, mas que de sus escollos, en que se destrozó vuestra nave. Mas terribles son que el naufragio, y la muerte los placeres que asaltan á la virtud. Guardaos bien de no prestar fé á lo que ella os contare. Es la juventud presumida, y de sí propia se lo promete todo: por mas que sea fragil, piensa que para todo tiene poder, y que no ha de temer cosa ninguna; fíase de ligero y

and listens to subtilty without suspicion. Beware of the seducing eloquence of Calypso; that mischief which, like a serpent, is concealed by the flowers udder which it approaches; dread the latent poison! Trust not thyself, but confide implicitly in my counsel.»

They then returned to Calypso, who waited for them; and her nymphs, who were dressed in white, and had their hair braided, set before them a repast, which, though it was simple: and consisted only of such game as they had either taken with their nets, or killed in the chace, was yet of exquisite taste, and served up with the utmost elegance: wine, more richly flavoured than nectar, was poured from large silver vases, and sparkled in cups of gold that were wreathed with flowers; and baskets were heaped with all the variety of fruit that is promised by spring, and bestowed by autumn. In the mean time four of the attendant nymphs began to sing: their first theme was the battle of the Gods and Titans; then they celebrated the loves of Jupiter and Semele, the birth of Bacchus, and his education under old Silenus; the race of Atalanta with Hippomenes, who conquered her by the means of golden apples that were gathered in the gardens of the Hesperides: the wars of Troy were reserved to the last; the prowess and the wisdom of Ulysses were extolled with all the hyperbole of praise; and the principal nymph, whose name was Leucothoe; to the harmonious voices of the chorus, joined the music of her lyre. When Telemachus heard the name of his father, the tears which stole down his cheeks added new lustre to his beauty; but Calypso, perceiving that he was too sensibly touched, and neglected to eat, made a signal to her nymphs, and they immediately changed the subject to the battle of the Centaurs with the Lapithæ, and the descent of Orpheus to bring back his Eurydice from hell.

When the repast was ended, Calypso took Telemachus aside, and addressed him thus: «Thou seest, O son of the great Ulysses! with what favour I have received thee: know, that I am immortal: no human foot profanes this island unpunished; nor would even shipwreck have averted my indignation from thee, if

sin cautela. Guardaos de dar oídos á las dulces y hechiceras palabras de Calipso, que se introducirán con deleite en vuestro corazón; temed aquel veneno escondido: desconfiad de vos mismo, y estad atento siempre á mis consejos.

Después de esto volviéron á Calipso, que los aguardaba: trenzados sus cabellos las Ninfas, y vestidas todas de blanco, les sirviéron unos manjares sin adovos; pero exquisitos, así por la sazón, como por el aliño. No se veía allí otra vianda sino los paxarillos que habían ellas preso con sus redes, ó las fieras, que en la caza ellas propias habían traspasado con sus flechas. Pasaban de cantaros de plata á vasos de oro, coronados de flores, un vino más suave que el nectar. Y al mismo tiempo en varios azafates se sacáron todas las frutas que la primavera promete, y el Otoño derrama sobre la tierra. Quatro jóvenes Ninfas se pusieron entonces á cantar; y primeramente cantáron la batalla de los Dioses con los Gigantes: después los amores de Júpiter y de Semele: el nacimiento de Baco, y el modo con que el viejo Sileno le educó: el curso de Hipomene y Atalanta, que quedó vencida por las manzanas de oro cogidas en el huerto de las Espérides. Cantáron finalmente también la sangrienta guerra de Troya, y levantáron sobre las nubes los combates de Ulises y su sabiduría. La primera de aquellas Ninfas que se llamaba Leucotoe, fué la que templó la armonía de su lira con aquellas suaves voces. Quando escuchó Telémaco el nombre de su padre, las lágrimas que corriéron sobre sus mejillas, diéron un nuevo lustre á su belleza. Mas luego que Calipso advirtió que no podía comer, y que le arrabataba el dolor, hizo señal á las Ninfas, é inmediatamente cantáron la lucha de los Centauros y Lapitas: la baxada de Orfeo á los abismos para sacar de allí á su querida Euridice.

Concluida la comida, tomó la diosa á Telémaco, y hablóle de esta suerte. Bien veis, ó hijo del grande Ulises, con qué cortesía os acojo: yo soy inmortal, y ninguno puede entrar en esta Isla sin tener el castigo de su temeridad: por la qual, si yo no os amase, vuestro naufragio mismo no os salvára de mi rigor. Vuestro padre ha

my heart were not touched with more than thy misfortunes. Thy father was equally distinguished by my favour; but, alas! he knew not how to improve the advantage. I detained him long in this asylum; and here he might have lived for ever in a state of immortality with me; but a fond desire of returning to his wretched island, blinded him to the prospect of superior felicity. Thou seest what he has lost for Ithaca, a country to which he can never return. He resolved to leave me, and departed; but a tempest revenged the insult, and the vessel in which he was embarked, having been long the sport of the storm, was at last swallowed up in the deep. Let this example influence thy conduct: all hopes of again seeing thy father, and of succeeding to his throne, are now at an end; but do not too deeply regret this loss, since thou hast found a goddess, who offers thee superior dominion, and more permanent felicity. » Calypso, after this declaration, exerted all her eloquence to display the happiness she had conferred upon Ulysses: she also related his adventure in the Cave of Polypheme, the Cyclop, and in the country of Antiphates king of the Lestrygonies; she forgot neither what happened to him in the island of Circe, the daughter of the Sun, nor the dangers of his passage between Scylla and Charybdis; she described the last tempest that had been raised against him by Neptune, after his departure from her, in which she insinuated that he had perished, concealing his arrival in the island of the Pheacians. Telemachus, who had too hastily congratulated himself upon the bounty of Calypso, now perceived the mischief of her designs, and the wisdom of that counsel which had been just given him by Mentor; he therefore answered in few words, « Forgive, O goddess! involuntary sorrow; my heart is now susceptible only of regret; but I may hereafter be again capable of felicity. Suffer me now to pay at least a few tears to the memory of my father, since thou knowest, better than his son how well he deserves the tribute. »

Calypso, perceiving that it was not now her interest to press him further, feigned to participate his sorrow,

tenido la misma buena suerte que vos; mas ¡ay, que no la supo aprovechar! Largo tiempo le guardé en esta Isla, y por él ha quedado el no vivir conmigo exento de la muerte; pero el deseo ciego de volver á su patria, hizo que no admitiese todas estas ventajas. Vos veis quanto ha perdido por restituirse á Itaca, que sin embargo no verá ya jamas. Quísome abandonar, y se ausentó; pero me vengó una tempestad. Su baxel, despues de haber sido juguete de los vientos, se sepultó en las hondas. Aprovechaos de exemplo tan funesto: despues de su naufragio, no os queda la esperanza de volver á verlo, ni de sucederle en su Reyno, y dominar en Itaca en algun tiempo. Consolaos de haberle perdido, pues hallais una diosa, pronta á haceros felice, y un Reyno, que ella misma os ofrece. Juntó con estas voces otros largos discursos, para contar quán dichoso habia Ulises sido en su compañía. Refirióle las cosas que le pasáron en la cueva de Polifemo, y en casa de Antifate, Rey de los Lestrigonios: no omitió los sucesos de la Isla de Circe, hija del sol, y los riesgos, que entre Scila y Caribdis habia padecido en el mar. Representóle la violenta borrasca que habia levantado contra él Neptuno, quando se ausentó de ella, queriendo que entendiera que habia fenecido en el naufragio; y no dixo su arribo á la Isla de Feaco. Telémaco, que se habia al principio entregado sobrado presto á su alegría propia, por ser tan bien tratado de Calipso, conoció finalmente su artificio y los sabios consejos de Mentor. Permitid mi dolor, ¡ó diosa! respondió en pocas voces: por ahora no puedo sino afligirme; quizás en adelante me hallaré mas robusto, para lograr la dicha que me ofreceis. Dexadme por ahora al llanto de mi padre: sabeia mejor que yo quanto él es digno de estas lágrimas.

No se atrevió Calipso á estrecharlo mas la primera vez, ántes disimuló, que se compadecia de Ulises, y

and to regret the fate of Ulysses; but that she might gain a more perfect knowledge of the means by which his affections were to be engaged, she inquired the particulars of this shipwreck, and by what accidents he had been thrown upon her coast. « The story of my misfortunes, » said he, « will be too long. » However long, said Calypso, « I am impatient to hear it; indulge me, therefore, without delay. » Telemachus often refused; but she continued her solicitation, and at length he complied.

« I set out from Ithaca to inquire after my father of those pritices who had returned from the siege of Troy. The suitors of Penelope, my mother, were surprised at my departure; because from them, whom I knew to be perfidious, I had concealed my purpose; but neither Nestor, whom I saw at Pylos, nor Menelaus, who received me with affection at Lacedæmon, knew whether my father was among the living or the dead. I was at length impatient of perpetual suspense and uncertainty; and therefore formed a resolution to go into Sicily, whither my father was said to have been driven by contrary winds: but the prudence of Mentor, who is here the companion of my fortunes, opposed the execution of so rash a design, by representing my danger, on the one hand, from the Cyclops, the gigantic monsters who riot upon human flesh; and on the other, from the fleet of Æneas and the Trojans, who were hovering about those coasts. « The Trojans, » said he, « are irritated against all the Greeks; but, above all, against Ulysses, whose son, therefore, they would rejoice to destroy: return then to Ithaca; perhaps your father, who is beloved of the Gods, may be returned already; but if heaven has decreed his death, if he shall see Ithaca no more, it is fit that you return to avenge him, and to deliver your mother; to display your wisdom to attending nations; and to let all Greece behold, in Telemachus, a sovereign not less worthy of the throne than Ulysses. » This counsel, which was the voice of reason, I rejected, and listened only to the suggestions of my passions: but such was the affection of my friend, that he embarked with me for that

que entraba á la parte de su dolor; mas por mejor penetrar los medios que serian mas al caso, para señorearse de su corazon, le preguntó en qué forma habia hecho naufragio, y por quales acasos se habia conducido á sus playas. Seria demasiado prolixa la narracion de todas mis desgracias, dixo él. No, no, replicóle Calipso: yo estoy con impaciencia por saberlas; daos prisa de contármelas. Importunólo mucho: y él, no pudiendo excusarse, habló de esta manera.

Partíme de Itaca para ir á preguntar á otros Reyes, vueltos del asedio de Troya, alguna nueva de Ulises. Quedáron admirados de mi partida los amantes de mi madre Penélope, porque habia procurado ocultársela, conociendo bien su perfidia. Nestor, á quien ví en Pilo y Menelao, que me recibió con cariño en Lacedemonia, no supiéron darme noticia de si mi padre todavia era vivo. Cansado de vivir siempre indeciso, y en una total incertidumbre determiné navegar á Sicilia, donde habia oido decir, que los vientos habian arrojado á mi padre. Pero el sabio Mentor que veis aquí presente, se opuso á este designio tan temerario. Representóme por una parte los Ciclopes, gigantes monstruosos, que se comen los hombres; y por otra la Armada de Eneas y los Troyanos, que costeaban aquellas playas. Los Troyanos, decia, estan irritados contra todos los Griegos; mas la sangre, que con mas gusto derramarían ellos, es la del hijo de Ulises. Volved á Itaca, proseguia en decirme: tal vez luego que allá llegareis, llegará tambien vuestro padre, á quien aman tanto los dioses. Pero si el cielo ha determinado que él feneciese, y que no vuelva á ver jamás su amada patria, preciso es por lo ménos que volvais á vengarlo y á dar á vuestra madre libertad; á mostrar á todos los pueblos vuestra sabiduría, y á hacer que vea en vos toda la Grecia un Rey tan digno de la corona como el mismo Ulises. Eran saludables sus voces; pero no harto prudente yo para escucharlas. No daba oidos sino á mi pasion sola; y el sabio Mentor me amó tanto, que me siguió en un viage tan temerario, á que yo me aprestaba á despe-

voyage, which, in the folly of my presumption, I undertook contrary to his advice; and the Gods, perhaps, permitted the fault, that the calamity which it drew upon me might teach me wisdom!

While Telemachus had been speaking, Calypso had attentively considered Mentor, and was suddenly chilled with astonishment; she imagined that she perceived in him something more than human; and not being able to resolve the perplexity of her thoughts into any probable determination, the presence of this inscrutable being continued to agitate her mind with suspicion and dread; but fearing yet more that her confusion should be perceived, « Proceed, » said she to Telemachus, « to gratify my curiosity; » and Telemachus accordingly continued his story.

« Westeered some time with a favourable wind for Sicily, but at length a tempest overcast the sky, and involved us in sudden darkness. By the transient gleams of the lightning we perceived other vessels that were exposed to the same danger; and were soon convinced that they were part of the Trojan fleet, which were not less to be dreaded by us than shoals and rocks. Then, but it was too late, I perfectly comprehended what the ardour of youth had before prevented me from considering with sufficient attention. In this dreadful exigence, Mentor appeared not only fearless and calm, but more than usually cheerful; he encouraged me to hope, and, as he spoke, I perceived myself inspired with invincible fortitude. While he was directing the navigation of the vessel with the utmost tranquillity, the pilot being incapacitated by terror and confusion, « My dear Mentor, » said I, « why did I reject your advice? What greater evil can befall me than a confidence in my own opinion, at an age which can form no judgment of the future, has gained no experience from the past, and knows not how to employ the present? If we survive this tempest, I will distrust myself as my most dangerous enemy, and confide only in Mentor, as my friend. » Mentor replied with a smile, « I have no desire to reproach you with the fault you have committed; if you

cho de sus consejos. Quisieron los Dioses que yo cayese en un yerro, por el que habia de escarmentar de mi presuncion.

En tanto que él hablaba, Calipso miraba á Mentor. Ella estaba pasmada, y pareciale reconocer en él algo divino; pero no podia sacar de entre la turbulencia de su confusion sus varios pensamientos. Por eso estaba llena de temor y desconfianza en préencia de aquel desconocido; mas temió dar á ver su turbacion. Continuada, dixo á Telémaco, en dar satisfaccion á mi curiosidad; y Telémaco entónces volvió otra vez á hablar.

Tuvimos mucho tiempo los ayres favorables para Sicilia; mas quitónos despues de nuestra vista al cielo una tempestad tenebrosa, y nos vimos cercados de una profunda noche. A la funesta luz de los rayos vimos en el mismo peligro algunas otras naves, y notamos bien presto que eran los baxeles de Eneas. No habiamos nosotros de temer estos ménos que los escollos. Entónces entendí, pero sobrado tarde, lo que el ímpetu fuerte de una juventud imprudente me habia embarazado considerar primero. Mentor en este riesgo, no solo se mostró firme é intrépido, sino mas sosegado y risueño que nunca. El proprio era quien me alentaba, y conocia yo que me inspiraba extraordinario esfuerzo; y miéntras el piloto se turbaba, él sosegadamente daba todos los órdenes. Amado Mentor mio, le decia yo, ¿por qué he rehusado seguir vuestros consejos? no he sido loco yo en haber querido darme á mí mismo fe en una edad, en que ni hay prevencion de lo futuro, ni experiencia de lo pasado, ni moderacion para usar con acierto de lo presente? ¡Ay! si escapamos de esta tempestad, desconfiaré de mí propio, como de mi enemigo mas peligroso; A ninguno! ó Mentor! daré fe en adelante, sino es á vos. Yo no estoy ya, me respondió Mentor sonriéndose, para reprehenderos el error que habeis hecho, y basta que vos mismo lo reconozcais, y que esto sirva para ser otra vez

have such a sense of it as will enable you to repress the violence of desire hereafter, I am satisfied : but when danger shall be past, perhaps presumption may return ; it is, however, by courage only that we can now escape. Before we incur danger, we should consider it as formidable ; but when it is present, we should treat it with contempt : now, therefore, shew thyself worthy of Ulysses, and discover a mind superior to all the evils which combine against thee. » The candour and magnanimity of Mentor gave me great pleasure ; but I was transported with wonder and delight at the stratagem by which he delivered us.

Just as the clouds broke, and the light must in a few minutes have discovered us to the Trojans, who were very near, he remarked that one of their vessels, which greatly resembled ours, except that the stern was decorated with garlands of flowers, had been separated from the rest of the fleet in the storm ; he immediately placed ornaments of the same kind at the stern of our vessel, and made them fast himself with bandages of the same colour as those of the Trojans ; he also ordered the rowers to stoop over their seats as low as possible, that our enemies might not discover them to be Greeks. In this manner he proceeded through the midst of their fleet ; and the Trojans, mistaking us for their vessel which had been missing, shouted as we passed : we were sometimes forced irresistibly along with them, but at length found means to linger behind ; and while they were driven by the impetuosity of the wind towards Africa ; we laboured at the oar, and made our utmost effort to land on the neighbouring coast of Sicily.

Our labour indeed succeeded : but the port which we sought was scarce less to be dreaded than the fleet which we had endeavoured to avoid ; for on the coast of Sicily we found other fugitives from Troy, who had stettled there under the government of Acestes, who was himself of Trojan extraction. We had no sooner landed than these people, imagining either that we were inhabitants of some other part of the island, who had taken arms to surprise them, or a foreign

mas circunspecto en vuestros deseos. Pero habiendo pasado el riesgo, volverá por ventura la presuncion. Menester es temerlo y prevenirlo; mas quando llega el tiempo á verse en él, no le queda que hacer sino despreciarlo. Sed, pues, hijo digno de Ulises: mostrad un corazon mayor que todos los males que os amenazan. Llenabanme de asombro la dulzura, y denuedo de Mentor; pero aun quedé mucho mas admirado, quando advertí con qué sagacidad nos sacó del peligro.

Los Troyanos en aquel punto en que empezaba el Cielo á esclarecerse, mirándonos de cerca, sin duda nos hubieran conocido. Notó, pues, él uno de sus baxeles que parecia al nuestro, y con la tempestad se habia separado lejos de los demas; cuya popa estaba coronada con algunas flores. Dióse prisa Mentor en coronarnos de semejantes flores, y él mismo las ató con algunas cintas de aquel mismo color, que eran las que llevaban los Troyanos. Dió orden á todos nuestros remeros, para que se abaxasen quanto pudieran lo largo de los bancos, por no ser conocidos de los contrarios, y de esta suerte pasamos por en medio de su armada. Al vernos ellos, levantaron el grito de contentos, como si hubieran visto á sus compañeros perdidos, y aun fuímos constreñidos de la fuerza del mar á andar con ellos mismos mucho tiempo. Finalmente nos quedamos un poco atras; y mientras que los vientos impetuosos los llevaban á la Africa, hicimos los postreros esfuerzos para llegar á fuerza de los remos á la vecina playa de Sicilia.

Llegamos en efecto; pero lo que buscabamos no era ménos funesto que la armada, que nos hacia huir. Encontramos á otros Troyanos, contrarios de los Griegos en aquella ribera de Sicilia. Era allí Rey Acestes que habia venido de Troya. Apenas arribamos á aquella playa, quando los vecinos creyeron que fuésemos nosotros armados de otros pueblos de la Isla, para improvisamente sorprenderlos, ó extrangeros que íbamos con designio de ocupar sus tierras. Al ímpetu

enemy, who had invaded the country, burnt our vessel in the first tumult of their rage, and put all our companions to the sword: Mentor and myself were spared only that we might be presented to Acestes, and that he might learn from us what were our designs, and whence we came. We entered the city, with our hands bound behind us; and had nothing to expect from this respite, but that our death would be made the spectacle of a cruel people as soon as they should discover us to be Greeks.

« We were brought before Acestes, who was sitting with a sceptre of gold in his hand, administering justice to his people, and preparing to assist at a solemn sacrifice. He asked us with a stern voice, the name of our country, and the purpose of our voyage: Mentor instantly replied, « We come from the coast of the greater Hesperia, and our country is not far from thence. » He thus avoided a declaration that we were Greeks. But Acestes would hear no more; and concluding that we were strangers, who had formed some evil design, which we were therefore solicitous to conceal, he commanded that we should be sent into the neighbouring forest to serve as slaves under those who had the care of his cattle. To live upon this condition was to me less eligible than to die: and I cried out, « O king! punish us rather with death than infamy. Know, that I am Telemachus, son of the wise Ulysses, king of Ithaca; in search of my father I am bound to every shore; but, in this search, if I am not permitted to succeed, if I must never more return to my country, and if I can no longer live but as a slave, put an end to my life, and relieve me from a burden that I cannot support. » This exclamation inflamed the multitude; and they immediately demanded, that the son of Ulysses, by whose inhuman subtilty Troy had been subverted, should be put to death. Acestes then turning to me, cried out, « I cannot refuse thy blood, O son of Ulysses! to the manes of those Trojans with whom thy father crowded the banks of Acheron: thou must die, and thy conductor shall perish with thee. » At the same instant, and old

primero de su furor , queman nuestro baxel , dan muerte á todos nuestros compañeros , reservando tan solos á Mentor y á mí , para presentarnos á Acestes ; y porque de nosotros pudiera averiguar nuestros designios , y de que tierras habíamos partido. Entramos en la Ciudad con las manos atadas á las espaldas , y no se retardaba la muerte , sino para hacernos servir de misero espectáculo á aquel pueblo cruel , si se hubiera sabido nuestra patria.

Fuimos luego presentados á Acestes , que teniendo empuñado un cetro de oro , juzgaba aquellos pueblos , y estaba disponiéndose para un gran sacrificio. Preguntónos , con un tono de voz severo , de dónde eramos , y á qué habíamos llegado. Prontamente Mentor respondió así : Venimos de las costas de la grande Hesperia , y no es léjos de aqui nuestra patria. De esta suerte excusó decir , que eramos Griegos ; pero Acestes , sin mas oir , y juzgándonos extrangeros , que ocultábamos nuestro intento , mandó que nos enviaran á una vecina selva , para servir de esclavos , á discrecion de aquellos á cuyo cargo estaban los ganados. Parecióme esta condicion mas dura que la muerte ; y por eso al punto grité : Hacednos , ¡ ó Rey ! ántes morir , que tratarnos con tanta indignidad. Sabed que yo soy Telémaco , hijo del sabio Ulises , Rey de Itaca , en cuya busca voy por todos esos mares. Si no puedo ni hallarlo , ni volver á mi patria , ni huir la esclavitud , acabadme una vida , que no podré sufrir. Apenas hube dicho éstas palabras , quando todo aquel pueblo conmovido gritó , que era preciso hacer morir al hijo del cruel Ulises , cuyos artificios habrian arruinado á Troya. ¡ O hijo de Ulises ! me dixo Acestes , no puedo negar vuestra sangre á las cenizas , y almas de tanto número de Troyanos , que murieron á manos de vuestro padre. Vos , pues , moriréis con ese que os conduce. Al mismo tiempo un viejo de aquella turba propuso que nos sacrificaran sobre el sepulcro de Anchises : Será su sangre grata , decia , á la alma de aquel héroe ; y quando sepa el mismo Eneas un sacrificio tal , se alegrará de ver quanto amais vos aquello que le es

man proposed to the king, that we should be offered up on the tomb of Anchises : « The shade of that hero , » said he , « will , be gratified with their blood ; and even the great Æneas , when he shall be told of such a sacrifice , will be touched with joy at the zeal of your affection for the supreme object of his own . » This proposition was received with a shout of applause , and the execution of it was immediately begun . We were conducted to the tomb of Anchises , where two altars had been prepared ; the hallowed fire was kindled , and the sacrificial knife lay before us . They had adorned us , as victims , with garlands of flowers ; and the pleadings of compassion were overborne by the impetuosity of zeal . But , just at this dreadful crisis , Mentor , with all the calmness of security , demanded audience of the king ; and addressed him thus : « O Acestes ! if the misfortunes of Telemachus , who is yet a youth , and has never borne arms against the Trojans , can excite no pity in thy breast , at least let thy own danger awaken thy attention . The skill that I have acquired in omens , by which the will of the gods is discovered , enables me to foretel , that within three days , a nation of barbarians will rush upon thee from the mountains , like a flood , to spoil thy city , and overspread thy country with desolation : make haste , therefore , to avert the torrent ; arm thy people , and secure , within the walls of the city , whatever is valuable in the field . If , when three days are elapsed , my predictions shall appear to have been false , let these altars be stained with our blood ; but on the contrary , if it shall be confirmed by the event , let Acestes remember , that he ought not to take away the life of those to whom he will be indebted for his own . » At these words , which were pronounced , not with the diffidence of conjecture , but the assurance of certain knowledge , Acestes was astonished : « I perceive , O stranger ! » said he , « that the gods , who have allotted thee so small a portion of the gifts of fortune , have enriched thee with the more valuable treasures of wisdom . » He then commanded the solemnities of the sacrifice to be suspended , and immediately

mas apreciable en el mundo. Todo el pueblo aplaudió la propuesta ; y no se pensó en otra cosa que en sacrificarnos. Conducianos ya al sepulcro de Anchises , en que habian erigido dos aras , sobre quienes ardía el sacro fuego : teníamos á vista el cuchillo que habia de acabarnos : habian nos coronado de flores , y de manera alguna podia nuestra vida salvarse : no habia mas remedio para nosotros ; quando Mentor pidió tranquilamente hablar al Rey , y hablólo de esta suerte : si no os puede mover a compasion , ó Acestes ! la infelicidad del jóven Telémaco , que nunca ha empuñado las armas en ofensa de los Troyanos , muévao por lo ménos vuestro propio interes. La ciencia que he adquirido de entender los presagios , y disposicion de los dioses , me hace conocer , que dentro de tres dias os veréis invadido de algunos pueblos bárbaros , que vienen de las cimas de los montes , como un torrente rápido , á inundar la ciudad , y asolar vuestras tierras. Daos prisa a prevenirlos : poned vuestros pueblos en armas , y no tardeis un punto a retirar dentro del recinto de vuestros muros los preciosos rebaños que estan en la campaña. Si mi predicción fuere falsa , dentro del breve espacio de tres dias podréis sacrificarnos : pero si es verdadera , acordaos , de que no debe un hombre quitar la vida á aquellos á quienes es deudor de la suya. Quedó espantado Acestes de estas palabras , que Mentor le decia con tal satisfaccion , qual jamas él habia hallado en algun hombre. Bien veo , ó extrangero , le respondió , que los dioses , que no os han dado mejor fortuna , os concedieron una sabiduría que es de mucho mas precio que todas las venturas de la tierra. Al mismo tiempo difirió el sacrificio , y dió con diligencia los órdenes precisos , para prevenir el asalto , de que Mentor le habia anticipadamente avisado. No se veia por todas partes otra cosa que tímidas mugeres , viejos encorvados , y niños con las lágrimas á los ojos , que se retiraban á la ciudad. Los bueyes , y las reses venian de tropel , dexando el grueso pasto : y no hallando rediles suficientes para estar al abrigo de cubierto. Ofanse por todas partes los confusos rumores de los hombres , que dando unos con

diately prepared against the invasion which had been predicted by Mentor. Multitudes of women, trembling with fear, and men decrepid with age, followed by children, whom the alarm had terrified into tears, were seen on every side, crowding to the city: the sheep and cattle came in such droves from the pastures, that they were obliged to stand without cover in the street; and a confused noise was every where to be heard, of multitudes that jostled each other with tumultuous and undistinguished outcries; mistook a stranger for a friend; and pressed forward with the utmost eagerness, though they knew not whither they were going. The principal citizens, indeed, imagining themselves to be wiser than the rest, regarded Mentor as an impostor, who had invented a falsehood to prolong his life:

But before the end of the third day, while they were yet applauding their own sagacity, a cloud of dust was perceived upon the declivity of the neighbouring mountains, and an innumerable multitude of armed barbarians were soon after distinguished. These were the Hymmerians, and other savages, that inhabit the Nebrodian mountains, and the summit of Agragas; regions in which the severity of winter is never softened by the breezes of spring. Those who had despised the prediction of Mentor were now punished by the loss of their slaves and their cattle; and the king addressed him to this effect: «From henceforth I forget that you are Greeks, since you are no more enemies, but friends; and, as you were, doubtless, sent by the gods for our deliverance, I hope not less from your valour than I have experienced from your wisdom; delay not, therefore, to afford us your assistance.»

«At this moment there appeared in the eyes of Mentor somewhat that intimidated the fierce, and overawed the proud: he snatched a shield and an helmet, girded on a sword, and poised a lance in his hand: he drew up the soldiers of Acestes, and advanced towards the enemy at their head. Acestes, whose courage was still high, but whose body was enfeebled by age, could only follow him at a distance; I ap-

otros , no podian bien entenderse : que tomaban en tanta confusion al incógnito por el amigo , y corrian sin saber á qué parte se encaminaban ; pero los principales de la Ciudad , creyéndose mas sabios , que los demas , pensaban que Mentor era un embustero , y habia hecho una falsa prediccion para salvar la vida.

Antes de fenecerse el tercer dia , miéntras se resolvian estos pensamientos , en la vertiente de los montes vecinos se vió una nube de polvo , de entre la qual salia una infinita tropa de bárbaros armados. Los que no hicieron caso de la prediccion sabia de Mentor , perdiéron sus esclavos y ganados. Acestes en esta ocasion , volviéndose á Mentor , le dixo asi : Ya no me acuerdo mas de que sois Griegos : nuestros enemigos han pasado á ser amigos fieles ; ni os miro sino como á hombres , que los dioses nos han enviado para salvarnos. No espero ménos de vuestro valor , que de vuestras sabias palabras : ea , pues , no tardéis en socorrerme.

Dió á ver en los ojos Mentor un denuedo , que hacia espanto á los mas feroces guerreros. Tomó el escudo , celada , espada y lanza , ordenó los soldados de Acestes , marchó á su frente , y fué á los enemigos con buen órden. Acestes , aunque lleno de corage , por su vejez no podia seguirlo sino de léjos : siguióle yo de mas cerca ; mas no pude igualar con su braveza. Su coraza parecia en aquella batalla á la Egide inmortal.

B s

proached nearer to his person, but not to his valour. In the battle, his cuirass resembled the immortal ægis of Minerva; and death watching his sword as a signal, followed him from rank to rank. Thus a lion of Numidia, that hunger has made yet more furious, rushes among the flock; he kills and tears to pieces without resistance; and the shepherds, instead of attempting to defend their sheep, fly with terror and trepidation to preserve themselves.

« The barbarians, who hoped to have surprised the city, were themselves surprised and disconcerted; and the subjects of Acestes, animated by the example and the voice of Mentor, exerted a power which they knew not that they possessed. The son of the king, who commanded the invasion, fell by my hand; our ages were equal, but he greatly exceeded me in stature: for those savages are descended from a race of giants, whose origin was the same with that of the Cyclops. I perceived that he despised me as a feeble enemy; but regarding neither the fierceness of his demeanour, nor the superiority of his strength, I made a thrust at his breast with my lance; the weapon entering deeply, he vomited a torrent of blood, and expired; but y was in danger of being crushed by his weight as he fell, and the distant mountains echoed with the clash of his armour. After I had stripped the body of the spoils, I returned to seek Acestes; and Mentor, having completed the disorder of the enemy, cut to pieces all that made a shew of resistance, and pursued the fugitives to the woods.

« This success, of which every one had so lately despaired, fixed all eyes upon Mentor, as a favourite of the gods, and distinguished by divine inspiration; and Acestes, in gratitude to his deliverers, acquainted us, that it would no longer be in his power to protect us, if the fleet of Æneas should put back to Sicily; he therefore furnished us with a vessel, that we might return to our country; and having loaded us with presents, he urged our immediate departure, as the only means by which the approaching danger could be avoided. He would not, however, supply us

De fila en fila discurría la muerte por donde quiera que descargaba el golpe; y él parecía á un león de la Numidia, que instigado de la hambre, entrando en un redil de desvalidas reses, arruina y destroza hasta tiadar en sangre, huyendo los pastores temerosos, por librarse de su furor, en vez de socorrer á su ganado.

Pensaban los bárbaros sorprender la ciudad, y fueron ellos mismos sorprendidos y puestos en desórden. Los vasallos de Acestes se animaron con las palabras y exemplo de Mentor, y tuvieron aquel esfuerzo del qual no se tenían por capaces. Yo abaté con mi lanza al hijo del Rey de aquel pueblo enemigo. El era de mi edad; pero de mayor estatura, porque era aquella gente de casta de gigantes, y de la raza misma de los Cíclopes. Despreciaba á un contrario tan débil como yo; pero sin espantarme de su monstruosa fuerza, ni del ayre salvaje, y fiero de su semblante, le metí en el pecho mi lanza, y á vueltas de un torrente de sangre humosa y negra, le hice vomitar la feroz alma. Al caer él, faltó poco para estruxarme á mí con su peso; y el ruido de sus armas hizo eco, que corrió por las montañas. Tomé de sus despojos, y volví al Rey Acestes con las armas quitadas al cadáver. Habiendo acabado Mentor de poner en desórden á los contrarios, los hizo trozos, y arrojó fugitivos hasta las selvas.

Con ocasion de un lance tan no esperado, le miraron como á hombre á quien amaban, é inspiraban los dioses. Movido Acestes del agradecimiento, nos avisó, que tenía grand miedo de nuestro bien, si las naves de Eneas llegaban á Sicilia; diónos él un baxel, para que nos volvieramos á nuestra tierra, nos colmó de regalos, y apresuró nuestra partida, para evitar todos los sucesos siniestros; mas no nos quiso dar piloto, ni remeros de su nacion, por temor que en las costas de la Grecia se expondrian á mucho riesgo. Diónos con todo algunos mercaderes Fenicios, que teniendo

either with rowers or a pilot from among his own subjects, because he was unwilling to trust them upon the Grecian coast ; but he sent on board some Phœnician merchants, who, as they are a commercial people, and trade to every port, had nothing to fear. These men were to have returned with the vessel to Acestes, after they had put us on shore at Ithaca ; but the gods, who sport with the designs of men, devoted us to other evils. »

END OF THE FIRST BOOK.

comercio con todos los países del mundo , no tenían de quien temer , y habían de volver á Acastes su baxel , en habiendonos dexado en Itaca. Pero nos reservaban otros nuevos riesgos los dioses , que hacen burla de las ideas humanas.

FIN DEL LIBRO PRIMERO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK II.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS relates his being taken in the Tyrian vessel by the fleet of Sesostris, and carried captive into Egypt. He describes the beauty of the country, and the wise government of its king. He relates also that Mentor was sent a slave into Æthiopia, and that he was himself reduced to keep sheep in the deserts of Oasis : and that in this state he was comforted by Termosiris, a priest of Apollo, who taught him to imitate that God, who had once been the shepherd of Admetus : that Sesostris, having at length heard with astonishment what his influence and example had effected among the shepherds, determined to see him, and being convinced of his innocence, promised to send him to Ithaca, but that the death of Sesostris overwhelmed him with new calamities : that he was imprisoned in a tower which overlooked the sea, from whence he saw Bocchoris, the new king, slain in a battle against part of his subjects, who had revolted, and called in the Tyrians to their assistance.

✓ « **T**HE pride of the Tyrians had offended Sesostris, the king of Egypt, who had extended his dominion by the conquest of many states. The wealth which they had acquired by commerce ; and the impregnable strength of their city, which stood in the sea, had rendered them so insolent and presumptuous, that they refused to pay the tribute which had been imposed by Sesostris on his return to Egypt ; and had sent troops to the assistance of his brother, who had attempted to assassinate him at a feast, in the midst of rejoicings that had been made for his return.

« Sesostris had determined to humble them, by interrupting their trade : he therefore sent out a great number of armed vessels, with orders to take or sink the Phœnician ships wherever they should be found ; and, just as we lost sight of Sicily, we fell in with an Egyptian fleet. The port and the land seemed to retreat behind us, and lose themselves in the clouds ;

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO II.

SUMARIO.

PRESENTAN Telémaco y Mentor á Sesostris, que cobra amor á Telémaco. Háceles Medofí traicion, siendo privado del Rey : divide á Mentor de Telémaco, y hace servir de esclavos á los dos. Contriñen á Telémaco á que guarde ganado, y pasa una vida de gran deleite en compañía de los otros pastores, que son de él enseñados. Lucha con un leon, y lo mata. La fama de ésta accion hace que sea llamado á la corte. Gana la gracia del Rey Sesostris, que le ofrece un baxel para continuar su viage. Muere en esto Sesostris. Bocoris, bijo del Rey Sesostris y su sucesor, manda encerrar á Telémaco en una torre. Muere Bocoris.

Los de Tyro con su soberbia habian irritado al Rey Sesostris, que reynaba en Egipto, y habia conquistado tantos Reynos. Las riquezas que habian adquirido por medio del comercio, y la invencible fortaleza de Tyro, situada en el mar, habian alentado la altivez de los pueblos. Excusábanse de pagar á Sesostris el tributo que les habia impuesto á la vuelta de sus conquistas, por haber dado soldados á su hermano, que habian intentado quitarle la vida á traicion entre las alegrías de un gran convite.

Sesostris habia resuelto abatir su orgullo, arruinar su comercio, y perseguirlos en todos los mares. Andaban sus baxeles buscando á los Fenicios por todas partes; y quando comenzamos nosotros á perder de vista los montes de Sicilia, nos salió al encuentro una Armada de Egipto. Parecia que la tierra y el puerto huian de nosotros, y se iban á esconder en las nubes, quando

and we saw the fleet advance like a floating city. The Phœnicians immediately perceived their danger, and would have avoided it, but it was too late; the Egyptian vessels sailed better than ours; the wind was in their favour, and they had a greater number of oars: they boarded, took us without resistance, and carried us prisoners into Egypt. I told them, indeed, that neither Mentor, nor myself, was a Phœnician; but they heard me with contempt, and, imagining that we were slaves, a marchandise in which they knew the Phœnicians traded, thought only how to dispose of us to the greatest advantage. We soon perceived the sea to be whitened by the waters of the Nile, and the coast of Egypt appeared in the horizon like a cloud: we then arrived at the island of Pharos, near the city of No, and then we proceeded up the Nile to Memphis. « If the sorrows of captivity had not rendered us insensible to pleasure, we must have been delighted with the prospect of this fertile country, which had the appearance of a vast garden, watered with an infinite number of canals. Each side of the river was diversified with opulent cities, delightful villas, fields that produced every year a golden harvest, and meadows that were covered with flocks: earth lavished her fruits upon the husbandman, till he stooped under the burden; and Echo seem pleased to repeat the rustic music of the shepherds.

« Happy are the people, » said Mentor, « who are governed by so wise a king! They flourish in perpetual plenty, and love him by whom that plenty is bestowed. Thus, O Telemachus! ought thy government to secure the happiness of thy people, if the gods shall at length exalt thee to the throne of thy father. Love thy subjects as thy children; and learn, from their love of thee, to derive the happiness of a parent: teach them to connect the idea of happiness with that of their king; that, whenever they rejoice in the blessings of peace, they may remember their benefactor, and honour thee with the tribute of gratitude. The tyrants who are only solicitous to be feared, and teach their subjects humility by oppression, are the scourges of mankind: they are, indeed, objects of terror; but, as they are also objects

en el mismo tiempo vimos, que las naves Egipcias, como una ciudad fluctuante, se iban acercando á nosotros. Bien las conocieron; mas tarde: los Fenicios quisieron alejarse; pero no era ya tiempo de ejecutarlo. Las velas de los Egipcios eran mucho mejores que las nuestras, tenían favorables los vientos y número mayor de remeros. Acercanse á nosotros, nos prenden, y nos llevan prisioneros á Egipto. En vano yo les quise persuadir que no era Fenicio: apenas se dignaron de escucharme. Tuvieron nos por esclavos, en que hacian tráfico los Fenicios, y no pensaron sino en la ganancia de semejante presa. Llegamos á la Isla de Faro: de aqui subimos por el Nilo arriba hasta Menfis; y si la pena de nuestro cautiverio no nos hubiera llevado todo el gusto de los placeres, hubieran nuestros ojos percibido extremado deleite, viendo las tierras fértiles de Egipto como un delicioso jardin regado con un número infinito de arroyos. No podia lisonjearse la vista sobre qualquiera de las dos riveras, sin que encontrase con hermosas islas, y quintas bellamente situadas; tierras, que sin descanso en todo el año, estaban siempre cubiertas de doradas mieses; praderías pobladas de ganados, labrados oprimidos del peso de los frutos de sus sembrados y pastores, que hacian repetir á los ecos de los contornos las alegres tonadas de sus pífanos y zampoñas.

¡ Feliz, decía Mentor, aquel pueblo, que es gobernado por un sabio Rey! El logra la abundancia, vive dichoso, y ama á aquel á quien debe la dicha de que goza. De esta manera debeis reynar, Telémaco, proseguia, y ser la alegría de vuestros pueblos. Si algun tiempo los dioses os dexan gobernar el Estado de nuestro padre, amad á vuestros pueblos como si fueran hijos: gustad de que ellos os amen, y haced, que nunca puedan percibir el sosiego y la alegría, sin acordarse de aquel buen Rey, de quien habrán recibido tan preciosas prendas. Los Reyes, que no piensan sino en hacerse temer y oprimir á sus súbditos, para hacerlos así mas rendidos, son el azote del linage humano. Son temidos, como quieren puntualmente serlo; mas son aborrecidos y detestados; y tienen harto mas

of hatred an detestation, they have more to fear from their subjects than their subjects can have to fear from them.»

« I replied — « Alas ! what have we now to do with maxims of government ? With respect to us, Ithaca is no more ; we shall never again behold Penelope, or our country : with whatever glory Ulysses may at length return, to meet his son is a joy that he shall never taste ; and to obey him till I shall learn to govern is a pleasure that will be for ever withheld from me. Let us die, then, my dear Mentor ; all thoughts, but of death, are idle speculations : let us die, since the gods have ceased to regard us with compassion ! » I was so depressed by grief, that this speech was rendered almost unintelligible by the sighs with which it was interrupted : but Mentor, though he was not presumptuous with respect to future evils, was yet fearless of the present. « Unworthy son of the great Ulysses ! » said he, « dost thou yield to misfortunes without resistance ? Know, that the day approaches, in which thou shalt again behold thy mother and thy country : thou shalt behold, in the meridian of his glory, him whom thou hast never known, the invincible Ulysses ? whom fortune can never subdued : an whose example, in more dreadful calamity than thine, may teach thee never to despair. Should he learn, in the remote countries on which the tempest has cast him, that his son emulates neither his patience nor his valour, the dreadful tidings would cover him with confusion, and afflict him more than all the horrors of his life. »

« Mentor then called my attention to the cheerfulness of plenty, which was diffused over all Egypt ; a country which contained twenty-two thousand cities. He admired the policy with which they were governed : the justice which prevented the oppression of the poor by the rich ; the education of the youth, which rendered obedience, labour, temperance, and the love of arts, or of literature, habitual ; the punctuality in all the solemnities of religion ; the public spirit ; the desire of honour ; the integrity to man, and the reverence to the gods, which were implanted by

que temer la rebelion de sus súbditos , que sus súbditos tienen que temer su potencia.

¡ Ay de mi ! respondí á Mentor : no es tiempo de pensar en las máximas , con que se ha de reynar. No hay mas Itaca ya para nosotros ; ya nunca volveremos á ver ni á nuestra patria , ni á Penélope : y aun quando Ulises , todo lleno de gloria , se restituyera á su Reyno , jamas tendrá el consuelo de nuestra vista , ni yo el de obedecerle , para aprender el arte de mandar. Muramos ; ó mi amado Mentor ! Ya no se nos permite otro discurso que este. Muramos , supuesto que no tienen los dioses compasion alguna de nuestros males. Mientras hablaba así , interrumpia todas mis palabras con muy profundos suspiros ; pero Mentor que temia los males ántes que sucediesen , no sabia temerlos al punto que ya habian llegado. Hijo indigno del sabio Ulises , me dixo en alta voz , ¿ luego os habeis dexado vencer de vuestra desgracia ? Sabed , que un dia veréis otra vez á la Isla de Itaca , y á Penélope , vuestra madre : veréis tambien en su primera gloria á aquel , que nunca visteis , al invencible Ulises , que no puede ser abatido de su fortuna ; y en sus grandes desgracias , demasiado mayores que las nuestras , nos muestra , que jamas debemos espantarnos. ¡ O si en aquellas apartadas tierras , á que ha sido arrojado de la tempestad , pudiera saber que su hijo no sabe imitar su valor y paciencia ! llenaríale de vergüenza esta sola noticia , y le seria de mayor tormento que todas las demas calamidades , que tanto tiempo ha que padece.

Hacíame Mentor observar despues de esto en toda la campaña de Egipto la alegria con la abundancia en ella derramada , y veinte y dos mil ciudades que estaban asentadas en su distrito. En ellas admiraba el buen orden , la justicia exercida á favor de los pobres contra los ricos ; la buena educacion de los niños , que se acostumbraban á la obediencia , al trabajo y á la sobriedad , al amor de las artes y de las letras ; la perfecta observancia de todo lo que mira á la Religion , el desinterés , el deseo de honra , la fidelidad con los hombres , y el temor de los dioses , que imprimian los

every parent in every child. He long contemplated this beautiful order with increasing delight, and frequently repeated his exclamations of praise. « Happy are the people ! » said he, « who are thus wisely governed ! but yet more happy the king whose bounty is so extensively the felicity of others, and whose virtue is the source of yet nobler enjoyment to himself : his dominion is secured, not by terror, but by love ; and his commands are received, not only with obedience, but with joy. He reigns in the hearts of his people ; who are so far from wishing his government at an end, that they consider his mortality with regret, and every man would rejoice to redeem the life of his sovereign with his own. »

« I listened attentively to this discourse of Mentor ; and, while he spoke, I perceived new courage kindle in my bosom. As soon as we arrived at Memphis, a city distinguished by its opulence and splendour, the governor sent us forward to Thebes, that we might be questioned by Sesostris ; who, if he had been less attentive to administer his own government, would yet have examined us himself, as he was extremely incensed against the Tyrians : we, therefore, proceeded up the Nile to the celebrated city with an hundred gates, the residence of this mighty prince. Thebes appeared to be of vast extent, and more populous than the most flourishing city of Greece. The regulations that are established for keeping the avenues free from incumbrances, maintaining the aqueducts, and rendering the baths convenient, for the cultivation of arts, and for the security of the public, are the most excellent that can be imagined. The squares are decorated with fountains and obelisks ; the temples are of marble ; and the architecture, though it is simple, is majestic ; the palace itself is almost as extensive as a town ; and abounds with columns of marble, pyramids, and obelisks, statues of a prodigious magnitude, and furniture of silver and gold.

« The king was informed, by those who took us, that we were found on board a Phœnician vessel : it was his custom to give audience, at a certain hour every day, to all who had any complaints to make,

padres en los hijos. No se satisfacía de admirar un orden tan hermoso. ¡ Bienaventurado aquel pueblo , me decia continuamente , á quien de esta manera gobierna un sabio Rey ! Pero harto mas feliz aquel Rey , que es el autor de la felicidad de tantos pueblos , y que en su virtud misma halla la suya ! Mas es que temido , pues es amado ; no solo le obedecen , sino que tambien le obedecen de buena gana. Es el Rey de todos los corazones , y cada uno mas teme perderlo , que verse libre de él , y pondria por él la vida.

Estaba atento yo á lo que Mentor me decia ; y conforme al discurso de este sabio amigo , sentia interiormente , que se me renovaba el esfuerzo. Luego que llegamos á Menfis , ciudad rica , abundante y magnífica , dió el Gobernador orden que fuésemos á Tebas , para ser presentados al Rey Sesostri , que por sí mismo examinaba las cosas , y estaba muy irritado de los Tyrios. Marchamos , pues , contra la corriente de Nilo hasta aquella famosa Tebas , que se entra por cien puertas , y que era habitacion de este gran Rey. Pareciéndonos aquella ciudad de una amplitud inmensa , y mas poblada , que las ciudades mas floridas de Grecia. Está allí en perfeccion el buen orden por la pulidez de las calles , el curso de las aguas , los conductos para los baños , cultura de las artes , y seguridad pública. Las plazas estan adornadas de fuentes y de agujas ; los templos son de mármol , y de una majestuosa , aunque sencilla arquitectura. El palacio solo del príncipe es como una grande ciudad : no se advierten en él sino columnas de mármol , pirámides , y agujas , colosos , y muebles de oro y plata macizos.

Los que nos apresaron diéron noticia al Rey de habernos encontrado en una nave Fenicia. Daba él todos los dias , en horas señaladas , audiencia á sus vasallos , que tenian alguna quexa , ó le querian dar algun consejo.

or intelligence to communicate ; nor was any man either despised or rejected by Sesostris : he considered himself as possessing the regal authority , only that he might be the instrument of good to his people , whom he regarded with the affection of a father ; and strangers , whom he treated with great kindness , he was very solicitous to see , because he believed that some useful knowledge might always be acquired by an acquaintance with the manners and customs of remote countries. For this reason , we were brought before him. He was seated upon a throne of ivory , and held a golden sceptre in his hand : thought he was advanced in years , his person was still graceful , and his countenance was full of sweetness and majesty. He sat every day to administer justice to his people ; and his patience and sagacity as a judge would have vindicated the boldest panegyrist from the imputation of flattery. Such were the labours of the day : and to hear a declamation on some question of science , or to converse with those whom he knew to be worthy of his familiarity , was the entertainment of the evening. Nor was the lustre of his life sullied by any fault but that of having triumphed over the princes whom he had conquered with too much ostentation , and confided too much in one of his officers , whose character I shall presently describe. When he saw me , my youth moved him to compassion ; and he enquired of my country and my name. We were struck with dignity and propriety of his expression ; and I answered. — « Most illustrious prince ! thou art not ignorant of the siege of Troy , which endured ten years ; nor of its destruction , which exhausted Greece of her noblest blood : Ulysses , the King of Itacha , who is my father , was one of the principal instruments of that great event ; but is now , in search of his kingdom , a fugitive on the deep ; and , in search of him , I am , by a like misfortune , a captive in Egypt. Restore me once more to my father and my country ; so may the gods preserve thee to thy children ; and may they rejoice under the protection of so good a parent ! »

Sesostris still regarded me with compassion ; but doubting whether what I had told him was true , he gave

No despreciaba , ni desechaba á alguno , y no pensaba ser Rey , sino para hacer bien á sus súbditos , que amaba como á hijos. Quanto á los extrangeros , recibíalos con agasajo , y queria verlos á todos , porque creia que en informarse de las costumbres , y de las máximas de los otros pueblos distantes , siempre se aprendia algo provechoso. Fué curiosidad de Sesostris la ocasion de serle presentados nosotros. Estaba al verme , en un riquísimo trono de Marfil , y empuñaba en su mano un cetro de oro. Era ya de crecida edad , pero brioso y lleno de dulzura y de magestad. Juzgaba cada dia á los pueblos con una tal paciencia y sabiduría , que sin adulacion la admiraban todos. Habiendo trabajado todo el dia en reglar los negocios de su Reyno , y en hacer entera justicia ; era su diversion á la tarde oir los hombres doctos , ó hablar con las personas mas honradas , que sabia escoger muy bien , para darles entrada en su confianza. No podia en toda su vida notársele otra cosa , sino el haber triunfado con sobrada altivez de los Reyes vencidos con sus armas ; y el haberse fiado de uno de sus vasallos , del qual dentro de poco haré la descripcion. Enternecióronle mi juventud y pena : me preguntó de mi patria y nombre , y quedamos maravillados de sus sabias y juiciosas palabras. Gran Rey , le respondí , bien teneis noticia del asedio de Troya , que ha durado diez años , y su ruina que tanta sangre ha costado á la Grecia. Uno de los principales Monarcas , que han abatido aquella ciudad , es mi padre Ulises : ahora anda vagamentè por los mares , sin poder encontrar la Isla de Itaca , ni su Reyno. Yo lo busco , y me han preso , por no desemejante desgracia que la suya. Restituidme á mi patria , y á mi padre ; asi os guarden los dioses á vuestros hijos , y hagan disfrutar á ellos el consuelo de vivir á la sombra de tan buen padre.

Continuaba Sesostris en mirarme con ojos compasivos ; mas queriendo saber si era verdad lo que yo le

charge of us to one of his officers, with orders to enquire of the persons who had taken our vessel, whether we were indeed Greeks or Phœnicians. « If they are Phœnicians, » said he, « they well deserve punishment, not only as our enemies, but as wretches who have basely attempted to deceive us by falshood; but, on the contrary, if they are Greeks, it is my pleasure that they be treated with kindness, and sent back to their country in one of my vessels: for I love Greece; a country which has derived many of its laws from the wisdom of Egypt. I am not unacquainted with the virtue of Hercules; the glory of Achilles has reached us, however remote; I admire the wisdom that is related of the unfortunate Ulysses: and I rejoice to alleviate the distress of virtue. »

« Metophis, the officer to whom the king had referred the examination of our affair, was as corrupt and selfish as Sesostris was generous and sincere: he attempted to perplex us by ensnaring questions; and, as he perceived that Mentor's answers were more prudent than mine, he regarded him with malevolence and suspicion; for, to the unworthy, there is no insult so intolerable as merit. He therefore, caused us to be separated; and from that time I knew not what was become of Mentor. This separation was, to me, sudden and dreadful as a stroke of thunder; but Metophis hoped that, by interrogating us apart, he should be able to discover some inconsistency in our account; and yet more, that he might allure me, by promises, to discover that which Mentor had concealed. To discover truth was not indeed, his principal view; but to find some pretence to tell the king we were Phœnicians, that, as slaves, we might become his property; and, notwithstanding our innocence, and the king's sagacity, he succeeded. How dangerous a situation is royalty, in which the wisest are often the tools of deceit! A throne is surrounded by a train of subtilty and selfinterest; Integrity retires, because she will not be introduced by Importunity or Flattery: Virtue, conscious of her own dignity, waits at a distance till she is sought; and princes seldom know where she is to be found; but Vice, and her dependants, are

Decía, nos remitió á uno de sus ministros, á quien le cometi6 informase de aquellos, que habian apresado nuestro baxel, si de hecho eramos Griegos ó Fenecios. Si son Fenecios, dixo Sesostris, conviene castigarlos doblado, por ser nuestros contrarios, y mucho mas por querer engañarnos con una infame mentira: si al contrario son Griegos, quiero sean tratados con cortesía, y sean remitidos á su patria en una de nuestras naves, porque amo tiernamente á la Grecia. De allí han tomado leyes muchos Egipcios, tengo noticia del esfuerzo de Hércules: ha llegado hastas nuestras tierras la gloria de Achiles: me parece maravilloso lo que he oido decir de la prudencia del desgraciado Ulises. No tengo otro placer, que es el de socorrer á la virtud desdichada.

El ministro á quien encargó el Rey el exámen de nuestra dependencia, tenia un ánimo otro tanto perverso y engañoso, quanto era generoso, y sincero el de Sesostris. Llamábase Metofi. Pregunt6nos, procurando engañarnos; y luego que advirtió que Mentor respondia mas diestramente qu6 yo, lo miró con disgusto y desconfianza, porque los malos se enojan contra los buenos. Separ6nos: y yo no supe despues noticias de Mentor. Esta separacion fue para mí, como si me hiriera algun rayo. Esperaba siempre Metofi, que preguntándonos separados, podria hacer que dixeramos cosas encontradas; y creía especialmente alucinar-me con sus lisonjeras promesas, y hacerme confesar lo que le callaba Mentor. En suma, no buscaba sinceramente la verdad, sino que queria encontrar algun pretexto para decir al Rey que eramos Fenecios, y podernos hacer esclavos suyos. En efecto, á despecho de nuestra inocencia y de la penetracion del Rey, halló el modo de poder engañarlo. ¡Ay, á qué fraudes estan sujetos los Soberanos! Los mas sabios de entre ellos son frecüentemente engañados de los hombres astutos y avaros que los rodean. Los buenos se retiran lejos del Príncipe, porque no son solícitos, ni aduladores; esperan que les busquen, y no saben los Príncipes buscarlos. Al contrario los malos, son osados, tramposos, solícitos en insinuarse y hallar el gusto de otros; diestros en el disimular, y prontos

impudent and fraudulent, insinuating and officious, skilful in dissimulation, and ready to renounce all principles, and to violate every tie, when it becomes necessary to the gratification of the appetites of a prince. How wretched is the man who is thus perpetually exposed to the attempts of guilt ! by which he must inevitably perish, if he does not renounce the music of adulation, and learn not to be offended by the plainness of truth. Such were the reflections which I made in my distress ; and I revolved in my mind all that had been said to me by Mentor.

« While my thoughts were thus employed, I was sent by Metophis towards the mountains of the desert Oasis, that I might assist his slaves in looking after his flocks, which were almost without number. » Calipso here interrupted Telemachus. « And what did you then? » said she. « In Sicily you chose death rather than slavery. » — « I was then, » said Telemachus, « become yet more wretched, and had no longer the sad consolation of such a choice. Slavery was irresistibly forced upon me, and I was compelled by Fortune to exhaust the dregs of her cup : I was excluded even from hope, and every avenue to liberty was barred against me. In the mean time, Mentor, as he has since told me, was carried into Ethiopia, by certain natives of that country, to whom he had been sold.

« The scene of my captivity was a desert, where the plain is a burning sand, and the mountains are covered with snow ; below was intolerable heat, and above was perpetual winter ; the pasturage was thinly scattered among the rocks, the mountains were steep and craggy, and the vallies between them were almost inaccessible to the rays of the sun : nor had I any society in this dreadful situation, but that of the shepherds, who are as rude and uncultivated as the country. Here I spent the night in bemoaning my misfortunes, and the day in following my flocks, that I might avoid the brutal insolence of the principal slave, whose name was Butis ; and who, having conceived hopes of obtaining his freedom, was perpetually accusing the rest,

para obrar contra honra y conciencia, para satisfacer á las pasiones de quien domina. ¡O qué grande infelicidad la de un Rey, que vive expuesto á los artificios de los hombres malvados! El se pierdo sino desecha de sí la adulacion, y no tiene carifio á los que con valor le dicen la verdad. Estas eran las reflexiones que yo hacia en mi desventura, haciendo á la memoria todo aquello que habia oido á Mentor.

Entre tanto me envió Metofi á los montes desiertos, en compañía de sus esclavos, á fin de que con ellos guardase sus grandes rebaños. En este punto le interrumpió Calipso, diciendo. Pues qué hicisteis entonces, habiendo antepuesto en Sicilia la muerte al cautiverio? Mi desventura, le respondió Telémaco, iba siempre en aumento: no tenia ya el ruin consuelo de escoger entre la esclavitud y la muerte; convino ser esclavo, y agotar, por decirlo así, todos los rigores de la fortuna. No me quedaba alguna otra esperanza, y no podia decir ni una palabra para librarme. Hame dicho despues Mentor, que fué vendido á unos Etiopes, y discurrió toda la Etiopia.

En quanto á mí, llegué á unos espantosos desiertos. Véense en medio de sus llanuras arenas abrasadas de excesivo calor, nieves, que jamas se deshacen y forman un Invierno perpetuo en las cimas de las montañas; y hallanse solamente entre los riscos las hierbas, que alimentan á los ganados. Acia el centro de aquellas inaccesibles montañas son tan hondos los valles, que no pueden apenas llegar á iluminarlos los rayos refulgentes del sol. No hallé en aquel pais otros hombres, que los pastores, y tan rústicos como el pais mismo. Pasaba allí las noches llorando mi desgracia, y los dias detras de una manada, para huir del brutal furor del principal esclavo, que esperando alcanzar su libertad, acusaba continuamente á

as a testimony of his zeal and attachment to the interest of his master. This complication of distress almost overwhelmed me: and, in the anguish of my mind, I one day forgot my flock, and threw myself on the ground near a cave, expecting that death would deliver me from a calamity which I was no longer able to sustain: but just in the moment of despair, I perceived the mountain tremble; the oaks and pines seemed to bow from the summit; the breeze itself was hushed: and a deep voice, which seemed to issue from the cave, pronounced these words: « Son of the wise Ulysses! thou must, like him, become great by patience. Princes who have not known adversity are unworthy of happiness; they are enervated by luxury, and intoxicated with pride. Surmount, and remember these misfortunes, and thou art happy. Thou shalt return to Ithaca; and thy glory shall fill the world. When thou shalt have dominion over others, forget not that thou hast been like them, weak, destitute and afflicted: be it thy happiness, then, to afford them comfort; love thy people: detest flattery: and remember that no man is great, but in proportion as he restrains and subdues his passions. »

These words inspired me as the voice of heaven? joy immediately throbbed in my veins, and courage glowed in my bosom: nor was I seized with that horror which so often causes the hair to stand upright, and the blood to stagnate, when the gods reveal themselves to men. I rose in tranquillity; and, kneeling on the ground, I lifted up my hands to heaven, and paid my adorations to Minerva, to whom I believed myself indebted for this oracle. At the same time I perceived my mind illuminated with wisdom; and was conscious to a gentle, yet prevailing, influence, which over-ruled all my passions, and restrained the ardour of my youth: I acquired the friendship of all the shepherds of the desert; and my meekness, patience, and diligence, at length obtained the good-will even of Butis himself, who was at first disposed to treat me with inhumanity.

« To shorten the tedious hours of captivity and so-

los demas, para acreditar con su dueño el zelo y el cuidado que tenia de sus ventajas. En esta ocasion fatal yo habia de quedar de preciso oprimido del peso de tantos males. Agravándose en mí siempre el dolor, me olvidé del ganado un dia, y me tendí en la hierba vecina á una caverna; en donde aguardaba la muerte, no pudiendo soportar mis penas. Noté en esto, que el monte todo se estremecía: parecióme que las encinas y pinos baxaban de la cima de la montaña; y dexáron los vientos de correr. Salió de la caverna una tremenda voz, la qual me hizo entender estas palabras: Hijo del sabio Ulises, conviene que con la paciencia te hagas grande como tu padre. Los príncipes, que siempre fueron felices, no son dignos de serlo; la delicadeza los gasta, y la altivez los embriaga. ¡O cuán feliz serás, si vences tus presentes desgracias, y nunca las dexas huir de la memoria! Tú volverás á ver la Isla de Itaca, y se alzará tu gloria á las estrellas; mas quando seas dueño de los otros hombres, acuérdate que fuiste desvalido, pobre y paciente, nada ménos que ellos. Gusta de consolarlos, ten amor á tu pueblo, aborrece la adulacion, y sabe que no serás grande, sino en quanto seas moderado y esforzado en vencer tus pasiones.

Estas celestiales palabras me entraron hasta lo íntimo del corazon, é hiciéron renacer en mí mismo el valor y alegría. No sentí aquel horror que eriza los cabellos sobre la cabeza, y que hielá la sangre dentro de las venas, quando los dioses vienen para comunicarse á los mortales. Alcérme sosegado, adoré de rodillas á Minerva, levantado al Cielo las manos, y me creí obligado á esa deidad por el oraculo. Al mismo me reconocí un nuevo hombre distinto del primero: mi entendimiento se hallaba iluminado de la sabiduría, y sentia en mí mismo una fuerza suave, para moderar mis pasiones, y reprimir el ímpetu de mi edad juvenil. Híceme amar de todos los pastores del desierto; y mi dulzura, paciencia y diligencia, amansáron el cabo aquel cruel salvage, que tenia la autoridad sobre los otros esclavos, y pretendió al principio darme mucha inquietud.

Para llevar mejor el disgusto del cantiverio y de la

litude, I endeavoured to procure some books; for I sunk under the sense of my condition, merely because I had nothing either to recreate or to fortify my mind. « Happy, » said I, « are those that have lost their relish for tumultuous pleasure, and are content with the soothing quiet of innocence and retirement! Happy are they whose amusement is knowledge, and whose supreme delight is the cultivation of the mind! Wherever they shall be driven by the persecution of Fortune, the means of employment are still with them and that weary listlessness, which renders life insupportable to the voluptuous and the lazy, is unknown to those who can employ themselves by reading. Happy are those to whom this employment is pleasing; and who are not, like me, compelled to be idle! » While my mind was agitated by these thoughts, I had wandered into a thick forest; and suddenly, looking up, I perceived before me an old man with a book in his hand; his forehead was somewhat wrinkled, and he was bald to the crown; a beard, white as snow, hung down to his girdle; his stature was tall; his cheeks were still florid, and his eyes piercing; there was great sweetness in his voice; his address, though it was plain, was engaging: and I had never seen any person whose manner and appearance so strongly excited veneration and esteem. His name was Termosiris; he was a priest of Apollo, and officiated in a temple of marble which the kings of Egypt had consecrated to that deity in the forest. The book which he held in his hand was a collection of hymns that had been composed to the honour of the gods.

He accosted me with an air of friendship; and we entered into conversation. He related past events with such force of expression, that they seemed to be present; and with such comprehensive brevity, that attention was not wearied; and he foresaw the future, by a sagacity that discovered the true characters and dispositions of mankind and the events which they would produce. But with all this intellectual superiority, he was cheerful and condescending: there is no grace in the utmost gaiety of youth that was not exceeded by Termosiris in his

soledad, busqué algun libro; y hallándome oprimido del tedio, por falta de un maestro, que pudiera informar mi entendimiento, y hacer fuerte mi espíritu contra las invasiones de la desgracia: Felices, decia yo, aquellos que aborrecen los placeres violentos, y saben contentarse con una vida inocente. ¡Felices los que tienen recreo en instruirse, y gustan de pulir con las ciencias su entendimiento. A qualquier lugar donde les arroje la fortuna contraria, llevan siempre consigo su deleite y conversacion; y el tedio, que destruye entre las delicias á los demas hombres, es incógnito á aquellos que saben ocuparse á sí mismos con alguna leccion. Felices los que gustan de leer y no se hallan, qual yo, en parage de no lograr ese consuelo. Mientras en mi interior revolvía estas cosas, me introduxe en lo espeso de una obscura selva, donde improvisamente encontraron mis ojos con un viejo; que tenía en la mano un libro. Tenia la cabeza muy calva, y su poco cabello un poco crespo: la barba le baxaba hasta la cintura, y ya estaba poblada de muchas canas: era alta y magestuosa su estatura: todavía sus carnes se mantenían frescas y de color vivaz: los ojos perspicaces y alegres: su voz dulce, y sencillas y amables sus palabras. Jamas he visto anciano tan venerable. Llamábase Termosiri, y era sacerdote de Apolo en un templo, que los Reyes de Egipto le habían construido de marmól, y consagrado en aquella selva. El libro que tenía en la mano; era un volumen de himnos en hora de los dioses.

Acercóseme con cariño, y empezamos ambos á conversar. Referia tan bien los acaecimientos pasados, que á quien se los oía, le parecia verlos; pero los referia con brevedad, y nunca sus historias me fatigaron. Con su profunda ciencia preveía lo venidero, conocía á los hombres, y los designios de que son capaces. Sin embargo de ser dotado de gran prudencia; era jovial; y pronto en ajustarse al gusto ó voluntad de los otros; y la juventud mas alegre no tiene tanta gracia, quanta tenía en él una tan adelantada

his age ; and he regarded young persons with a kind of parental affection , when he perceived that they had a disposition to be instructed , and a love for virtue.

« He soon discovered a tender regard for me ; and gave me books to relieve the anxiety of my mind. He called me his son ; and I frequently addressed him as a father. « The gods , » said I , « who have deprived me of Mentor , have , in pity , sustained me with thy friendship. » He was , without doubt , like Orpheus and Linus , irradiated by the immediate inspiration of the gods. He often repeated verses of his own , and gave me those of many others who had been the favourites of the muses. When he was habited in his long white robes , and played upon his ivory lyre , the bears , lions , and tigers of the forest fawned upon him , and licked his feet ; the satyrs came from their recesses and danced around him ; and it might almost have been believed , that even the trees and rocks were influenced by the magic of his song , in which he celebrated the majesty of the gods , the virtue of heroes , and the wisdom of those who prefer glory to pleasure.

« Termosiris often excited me to courage. He told me that the gods would never abandon either Ulysses or his son ; and that I ought , after the example of Apollo , to introduce the shepherds to the acquaintance of the muses. « Apollo , » says he , « displeased that Jupiter frequently interrupted the serenity of the brightest days with thunder , turned his resentment against the Cyclops , who forged the bolts , and destroyed them with his arrows. Immediately the fiery explosions of Mount Etna ceased , and the strokes of those enormous hammers , which had shaken the earth to the centre , were heard no more ; iron and brass , which the Cyclops had been used to polish , began now to rust and canker : and Vulcan quitting his forge , in the fury of his resentment , hastily climbed Olympus , notwithstanding his lameness ; and , rushing into the assembly of the gods , covered with dust and sweat , complained of the injury with all the bitterness of invective. Jupiter being thus incensed against Apollo , expelled him from heaven , and threw him down headlong to the

vejez; porque amaba á los jóvenes, quando eran dóciles y gustaban de la virtud.

Amóme tiernamente, y dióme algunos libros para mi consuelo: llamábase su hijo; y de ordinario le decia yo: los dioses, padre mio, que me han quitado á Mentor, se han compadecido de mí, y en vos me han concedido un otro nuevo apoyo. Este viejo como Orfeo y Lino, era ciertamente inspirando de los dioses. Leíame los versos que habia hecho, y dábame los de aquellos poetas excelentes, á los quales las Musas favorecieron. Quando se revestia de su larga ropa blanca y lucida, y tomaba en sus manos la lira de oro, venian á alhagarle, y á lamerle los pies los tigres, los osos y los leones. Saltaban de los bosques los Sátiros, para danzar en contorno de él: parecia que los árboles se movian; y creyérase que los riscos enternecidos se iban á arrojar de las cumbres de las montañas, atraídos con el deleite de su suave voz. No cantaba sino la grandeza sublime de los dioses, la virtud de los héroes, y la sabiduría de aquellos hombres que acertaron á anteponer la gloria á los deleites.

Decíame muchas veces, que yo me debia alentar, y que no habrian los dioses desamparado á Ulises ni á su hijo. Inspiróme por fin, que á imitacion de Apolo, debia yo enseñar á los pastores á cultivar las Musas. Apolo, decia él, indignado porque Júpiter alborotaba el cielo con sus rayos los dias mas serenos, quiso tomar venganza en los Cíclopes, que se los fabricaban, y los atravesó con sus flechas. Dexó el Etna al instante de vomitar tempestades de llamas; ni ya se oyéron mas los golpes horrorosos de los martillos que hiriendo en los yunques, hacian estremeserse, no solo las profundas cavernas de la tierra, sino hasta los abismos del mar: empezábanse á enmohecer el hierro y el alambre, no puliéndolos los Cíclopes. Salíó enfurecido Vulcano de su ardiente oficina; y corriendo, aunque cojo, apresuradamente ácia el cielo, llegó sudado y cubierto de negro polvo á la asamblea, en que estaban congregados los dioses, y lamentóse amargamente en ella. Irritándose Júpiter contra Apolo, lo desterró del cielo y le arrojó á la tierra. Vacía su car-

earth : but his chariot , though it was empty , still performed its usual course ; and by an invisible impulse , continued the succession of day and night , and the regular change of seasons to mankind. Apollo , divested of his rays , was compelled to become a shepherd , and kept the flocks of Admetus , king of Thessaly. « While he was thus disgraced , and in exile , he used to soothe his mind with music , under the shade of some elms that flourished upon the borders of a limpid stream. This drew about him all the neighbouring shepherds , whose life till then had been rude and brutal ; whose knowledge had been confined to the management of their sheep ; and whose country had the appearance of a desert.

To these savages Apollo , varying the subject of his song , taught all the arts by which existence is improved into felicity. Sometimes he celebrated the flowers which improve the graces of spring , the fragrance which she diffuses , and the verdure that rises under her feet ; sometimes the delightful evenings of summer , her zephyrs that refresh mankind , and her dews that allay the thirst of the earth : nor were the golden fruits of autumn forgotten , with which she rewards the labour of the husbandman ; nor the cheerful idleness of winter , who piles his fires till they emulate the sun , and invites the youth to dancing and festivity : he described also the gloomy forests with which the mountains are overshadowed , and the rivers that wind with a pleasing intricacy through the luxuriant meadows of the valley. Thus were the shepherds of Thessaly made acquainted with the happiness that is to be found in a rural life , by those to whom nature is not bountiful in vain : their pipes now rendered them more happy than kings ; and those uncorrupted pleasures which fly from the palace , were invited to the cottage. The shepherdesses were followed by the sports , the smiles , and the graces ; and adorned by simplicity and innocence.

Every day was devoted to joy ; and nothing was to be heard but the chirping of birds , the whispers of the zephyrs that sported among the branches of the trees , the murmurs of water falling from a rock , or the

roza, hacia su carrera ordinaria por sí á solas, para traer á los hombres los dias y las noches, junto con el regular trueque de las estaciones. Desposeído Apolo de sus rayos, se vió obligado á hacerse pastor, y guardar los ganados de Admeto Rey de Tesalia. El tañía la flauta, y todos los pastores concurrían á la sombra apacible de los olmos, sobre la márgen de una clara fuente, para oír sus canciones. Hasta aquel tiempo habian tenido ellos una vida salvaje y fiera: no sabian cosa alguna, que no fuera conducir su ganado, trasquilarlo, mirarlo, y hacer queso; y toda la campaña parecia un horrible desierto.

En adelante Apolo hizo luego entender á todos los pastores la dulzura de la vida rústica. Describia cantando las flores que coronan á la primavera, las fragancias que ésta difunde, y los verdes pimpollos, que brotan de sus huellas. Describia despues las deliciosas noches del estío, en que vienen los zéfiros á refrescar los hombres, y las lluvias á apagar la sed de la campaña. Celebraba tambien en sus canciones las doradas mieses, con que el otoño premia las fatigas del labrador; y el sosegado Invierno, en que las juguetonas tropillas de los muchachos van danzando vecinos al fuego. Representaba á veces las obscuras selvas, que cubren á los montes y los profundos valles, ó los rios, que en medio de los risueños prados van haciendo mil giros. Tambien enseñó á los pastores las delicias de la vida villana, quando se sabe encontrar el gusto de lo que hay mas admirable en la naturaleza. De á poco los pastores con sus flautillas se hallaron mas felices que los Reyes; y los placeres puros, que huyen de los palacios, corrieron de tropel á sus campañas. El juego, la risa y las gracias, por todas partes seguian á los inocentes pastores.

Todos eran dias de fiesta: no se escuchaba ya sino el canto de los paxarillos, ó el dulce susurro del zéfiro, que uno y otros jugaban en las frondosas ramas de los árboles; ó el murmullo del agua cristalina, que

songs with which the muses inspired the shepherds who followed Apollo; they were taught also to conquer in the race, and to shoot with the bow. The gods themselves became jealous of their happiness; they now thought the obscurity of a shepherd better than the splendour of a deity, and recalled Apollo to Olympus.

« By this story, my son, be thou instructed. Thou art now in the same state with that of Apollo in his exile; like him, therefore, fertilize an uncultivated soil, and call plenty to a desert; teach those rustics the power of music, soften the obdurate heart to sensibility, and captivate the savage with the charms of virtue. Let them taste the pleasures of innocence and retirement; and heighten this felicity with the transporting knowledge, that is not dependent upon the caprice of fortune. The day approaches, my son, the day approaches in which the pains and cares that surround a throne; will teach thee to remember these wilds with regret. »

« Termosiris then gave me a flute, the tone of which was so melodious, that the echoes of the mountains, which propagated the sound immediately brought the neighbouring shepherds in crowds about me: a divine melody was communicated to my voice; I perceived myself to be under a supernatural influence, and I celebrated the beauties of nature with all the rapture of enthusiasm. We frequently sung all the day in concert, and sometimes encroached upon the night. The shepherds, forgetting their cottages and their flocks, were fixed motionless as statues about me, while I delivered my instructions; the desert became insensibly less wild and rude; every thing assumed a more pleasing appearance; and the country itself seemed to be improved by the manners of the people.

« We often assembled to sacrifice in the temple to Apollo, at which Termosiris officiated as priest; the shepherds wore wreaths of laurel in honour of the gods and the shepherdesses were adorned with garlands of flowers, and came dancing with garlands of consecrated gifts upon their heads. After the sacrifice, we

caía de alguna roca; ó los cantares, que inspiraban las Musas á los pastores del séquito de Apolo. Enseñables este Dios á ganar el premio de la carrera, y atravesar los corzos y los gamos con las saetas. Los mismos dioses tuvieron zelos de la felicidad de los pastores; porque la vida de éstos les pareció mas dulce, que toda su gloria: por lo qual quisieron que Apolo se volviera al cielo.

Debeis vos, hijo mio, quedar enseñado de la historia, que os he referido. Ya que estais en el estado mismo de Apolo, cultivad esta tierra erizada: haced, que como él hizo, florezca este desierto; y instruid á los pastores del modo que aquel dios, qual es el alhago de la harmonía. Amansad los feroces corazones, dadles á ver lo amable de la virtud, y hacedles conocer quan dulce cosa sea el gozar en la soledad de estos inocentes placeres, que ninguna otra cosa es capaz de robarlos á los pastores. Un dia, ó hijo mio, un dia, los dolores y crueles afanes, que cercan á los Reyes, harán que no os desplace la vida pastoril que hubieris perdido.

Despues de haber hablado de esta suerte Termosiri, me dió un pífano tan suave, que los ecos de aquellos montes, que le hicieron oir por todas partes, atraxeron bien presto ácia mí á todos los pastores vecinos. Mi vez tenia una divina harmonía, y me sentia yo como fuera de mí mismo, moviéndome á cantar de la belleza con que la naturaleza adornó á la campaña. Pasábamos los dias enteros, y parte de las noches, cantando todos juntos, olvidándonoslos de sus cabañas y de sus ganados. En tanto que les daba alguna leccion, me ceñian absortos y sin movimiento. Parecía que aquellas soledades no tenian ya cosa rústica: todo era dulce en ellas, todo risueño, y hacíase entender, que el primero de los moradores ennoblecia al terreno.

Juntábamonos muchas voces para hacer sacrificios en el templo de Apolo, de que era sacerdote Termosiri, y iban coronados de laurel los pastores, en honra de aquel dios. Haciamos un banquete aldeano, y en él nuestros manjares mas delicados era leche cándida de nuestras ovejas, que nosotros mismos teniamos cui-

made a rural feast: the greatest delicacies were the milk of our goats and sheep, and some dates, figs, grapes, and other fruits, which were fresh gathered by our own hands; the green turf was our seat, and the foliage of the trees afforded us a more pleasing shade than the gilded roofs of a palace. But my reputation among the shepherds was completed by an accident: an hungry lion happened to break in among my flock, and began a dreadful slaughter. I ran towards him, though I had nothing in my hand but my sheep-hook. When he saw me, he erected his mane: he began to grind his teeth, and to extend his claws; his mouth appeared dry and inflamed, and his eyes were red and fiery. I did not wait for his attack; but rushed in upon him, and threw him to the ground: nor did I receive any hurt, for a small coat of mail that I wore, as an Egyptian shepherd, defended me against his claws: three times I threw him, and he rose three times against me, roaring so loud that the utmost recesses of the forest echoed; but, at last, I grasped him till he was strangled, and the shepherds, who were witnesses of my conquest, insisted that I should wear his skin as a trophy.

« This action, and the change of manners among our shepherds, was rumoured through all Egypt, and came at length to the ears of Sesostris: he learnt that one of the two captives, who had been taken for Phœnicians, had restored the golden age in the midst of deserts which were scarce inhabitable, and desired to see me; for he was a friend to the muses and regarded, with attention and complacency, whatever appeared to be the means of instruction. I was accordingly brought before him: he listened to my story with pleasure, and soon discovered that he had been abused by the avarice of Metopis. Metopis he therefore condemned to perpetual imprisonment, and took into his own possession the wealth which his rapacity and injustice had heaped together. « How unhappy, » said he, « are those whom the gods have exalted above the rest of mankind! They see no object but through a medium which distorts it: they are surrounded by wret-

dato de ordeñar; y las frutas recientes, y cogidas con nuestras propias manos, como son los dátiles, los higos y las uvas. Estábamos sentados en la tierra alfombrada de hierba, y los frondosos árboles nos daban una sombra mas grata que los dorados techos de cualquiera real palacio. Pero lo que me acabó de hacer célebre entre los pastores fué, que un dia un leon hambriento se vino á echar sobre los ganados, que estaban á mi guarda, y comenzaba ya una horrible matanza. No tenia otra cosa á mano que mi cayado; no obstante me avancé esforzadamente. El leon erizó la melena, mostró los dientes y uñas, y abrió la boca enjuta é inflamada: sus ojos parecian estar llenos de sangre y fuego, y él mismo con su cola prolongada se heria entrambos lados. Echélo á tierra, y la pequeña cota de que iba yo vestido, á usanza de los pastores de Egipto, le estorvó que me despedazase. Tres veces le tendí sobre el campo, y tres veces se volvió á levantar. Rugia con tal fuerza, que hacia retumbar todas las selvas; mas con todo, eso le vencí. Ahoguélo finalmente entre mis brazos, y quisieron que me vistiera la piel de aquel bruto espantoso los pastores, que habian sido testigos de mi victoria.

La fama de esta accion corrió por todo Egipto, y la de la mudanza de nuestros pastores, hasta llegar á oídos del Rey Sesostris. Supo que uno de aquellos dos esclavos, que se habian tenido por Fenicios, habia en sus desiertos, poco menos qué inhabitables, renovado los siglos de oro. Quiso verme, porque amaba las Musas, y alhagaba al corazon grande de aquel Príncipe todo lo que podia instruir los hombres. Vióme, y escuchóme con gusto, y entendió, que Metofi le habia engañado por avaricia. Condenólo á prision perpetua, y le quitó todas las riquezas que poseia injustamente. ¡O cuán infeliz es, decia, quien se halla superior al resto de los hombres! muchas veces no le es posible descubrir con sus ojos la verdad, y le ciñen personas, que la estorban llegar á su noticia. Cada uno se mueve de su interes propio, para engañarlo: cada uno con aparente zelo oculta su soberbia: muestran todos amar al Rey, y no estiman sino á sus dones, ántes lo aman

ches who intercept truth in its approaches; every one imagines it is his interest to deceive them, and every one conceals his own ambition under the appearance of zeal for their service: that regard is professed for the prince, of which the wealth and honours that he dispenses are indeed the objects, and so flagitious is the neglect of his interest that for these he is flattered and betrayed.»

« From this time Sesostris treated me with a tender friendship, and resolved to send me back to Ithaca, in a fleet that should carry troops sufficient to deliver Penelope from all her suitors. This fleet was at length ready to sail, and waited only for our embarkation. I reflected, with wonder upon the caprice of fortune, who frequently most exalts those whom, the moment before, she had most depressed: and the experience of this inconstancy encouraged me to hope that Ulysses, whatever he should suffer, might at last return to his kingdom. My thoughts also suggested, that I might again meet with Mentor, even though he should have been carried into the remotest parts of Ethiopia. I therefore delayed my departure a few days, that I might make some enquiry after him: but in this interval, Sesostris, who was very old, died suddenly; and by his death I was involved in new calamities.

« This event filled all Egypt with grief and despair; every family lamented Sesostris as its most valuable friend, its protector, its father. The old, lifting up their hands to heaven, uttered the most passionate exclamations: « O Egypt, thou hast known no king like Sesostris in the times that are past; nor shalt thou know any like him in those that are to come! Ye gods! ye should not have given Sesostris to mankind; or ye should not have taken him away! O wherefore do we survive Sesostris! » The young cried out — « The hope of Egypt is cut off! Our fathers were long happy under the government of a king whom we have known only to regret! » His domestics wept incessantly, and during forty days, the inhabitants of the remotest provinces came in crowds to his funeral. Every one was eagerly solicitous yet once more to gaze upon the body of his prince; all desired to preserve the idea in their memory; and some requested to be shut up with him in the tomb.

tan poco, que por lograr sus gracias, le adulan y le hacen traicion.

Tratóme despues de esto Sesostris con un gran cariño, y resolvió restituirme á Itaca con algunos baxeles y soldadesca, para librar á Penélope de sus amantes. Estaba ya á punto la armada, y no se discurría en otra cosa, sino en embarcarnos. Yo admiraba los lances de la fortuna, la qual en un momento levanta al que mas ha abatido. Hacíame esperar esta experiencia, que podria volver Ulises á sus dominios despues de largos trabajos. Pensaba tambien en mí mismo, que podria recobrar nuevamente á Mentor, aunque habia sido llevado á los mas apartados países de la Etiopia. Miéntas yo difería mi partida, para adquirir siquiera alguna noticia, Sesostris, que era ya muy anciano, murió improvisamente, y me hizo su muerte volver á mis primeras desdichas.

Todo Egipto se mostró nconsolable por esta perdida: todas las familias se persuadian haber perdido un buen amigo, un protector y un padre. Los viejos, levantando al cielo las manos, levantaban tambien las voces, y decian: Jamas hubo en Egipto un tan buen Rey: menester era, ó Dioses, ó no mostrarlo al linage humano ó no quitárselo. ¿Para qué hemos nosotros de vivir despues del gran Sesostris? La esperanza de Egipto se ha arruinado, exclamaban los jóvenes: nuestros padres fuéron felices, porque han vivido en tiempo de un Rey tan bueno. En el espacio de quarenta dias corrian al cadaver los Pueblos mas distantes: cada uno queria conservar su imagen, y muchos se quisieran sepultar con él.

« The loss of Sesostris was more sensibly felt, as Bocchoris his son was destitute of humanity to strangers, and of curiosity for science; of esteem for merit, and love of glory. The greatness of the father contributed to degrade the son: his education had rendered him effeminately voluptuous, and brutally proud; he looked down upon mankind as creatures of an inferior species, that existed only for his pleasure; he thought only of gratifying his passions, and dissipating the immense treasures that had been amassed for public use by the economy of his father; of procuring new resources for extravagances by the most cruel rapacity impoverishing the rich, famishing the poor, and perpetrating every other evil that was advised by the beardless sycophants whom he permitted to disgrace his presence; while he drove away with derision, the hoary sages in whom his father had confided. Such was Bocchoris; not a king, but a monster. Egypt groaned under his tyranny; and though the reverence of the people for the memory of Sesostris rendered them patient under the government of his son, however odious and cruel, yet he precipitated his own destruction; and, indeed, it was impossible that he should long possess a throne which he so little deserved.

« My hopes of returning to Ithaca were now at an end. I was shut up in a tower that stood on the seashore near Pelusium, where we should have embarked if the death of Sesostris had not prevented us; for Metopis having, by some intrigue, procured his enlargement, and an admission into the councils of the young king, almost the first act of his power was to imprison me in this place, to revenge the disgrace into which I had brought him. There I passed whole days and nights in the agonies of despair. All that Termoisiris had predicted, and all that I had heard in the cave, was remembered but as a dream. Sometimes, while I was absorbed in reflections upon my own misery, I stood gazing at the waves that broke against the foot of the tower; and sometimes I contemplated the vessels that were agitated by the tempest, and in danger of splitting against the rocks upon which the tower was built: but I was so far from commiserating

Lo que mas aumentó el dolor de su perdida fué, que su hijo Bocoris no tenia afabilidad con los extrangeros, ni afición á las ciencias, ni estima de los hombres virtuosos, ni algun amor de gloria. Habia contribuido, para hacerlo digno del Reyno, la grandeza gloriosa de su padre. Habíase criado afeminado, y con una altivez brutal. No estimaba en nada á los hombres, creyendo que no habian sido criados sino para él, y ser de una otra naturaleza diversa de la suya. No pensaba sino en satisfacer sus pasiones, en malgastar los tesoros inmensos, que con tan gran cuidado habia recogido su padre: en atormentar á los pueblos, y sacar la sangre á los desdichados; y finalmente en no seguir otros consejos sino los de la adulacion, que le daban jóvenes necios de quienes estaba rodeado, al paso que alejaba de sí con desprecio á todos los prudentes ancianos, que habian merecido la confianza del Rey su padre. Era este un monstruo, y no tenia cosa de Rey. Gemia todo Egipto; y aunque el gran nombre de Sesostris, tan amado de aquellos naturales, les hacia sufrir con tolerancia el infame y cruel proceder del hijo, él corria y se despeñaba á su perdicion, y un Príncipe tan indigno del Trono no podia reynar largamente.

A mí no se me permitió la esperanza de volver á Itaca: quedé en una torre sobre la ribera del mar, cerca de Pelusio, donde me debia embarcar, si no hubiera muerto Sesostris. Metofi habia sido tan sagaz, que habiendo salido de su prision, se adquirió la gracia del nuevo Rey, y se restituyó en su grado primero. El, por vengarse de la desgracia que yo le ocasioné, me hizo encerrar en aquella torre. Pasé allí los dias y las noches en una profunda tristeza, y me parecia soñado quanto me predixo Termosiri, y huí de la caberna, hallándome sumido en amarguísima pena. De allí veia las ondas, que venian á herir la planta de la torre, que tenia me preso; y muchas veces era mi ocupacion mirar algun baxel contrastado de la borrasca, y á peligro de estrellarse en las rocas, sobre las quales se levantaba la torre. En lugar de compadecerme de los que naufragaban, tenia envidia de su fortuna. Al instante, decia entre mí mismo: Ellos

those who were threatened with shipwreck; that I regarded them with envy. « Their misfortunes, » said I to myself, « and their lives, will quickly be at an end together, or they will return in safety to their country; but neither is permitted to me! »

« One day, while I was thus pining with ineffectual sorrow, I suddenly perceived the masts of ships at a distance like a forest; the sea was presently covered with sails swelling with the wind, and the waves foamed with the stroke of innumerable oars. I heard a confused sound on every side. On the sea-coast, I perceived one party of Egyptians run to arms with terror and precipitation; and another waiting quietly for the fleet which was bearing down upon them. I soon discovered that some of these vessels were of Phœnicia, and others of the Isle of Cyprus; for my misfortunes had acquainted me with many things that relate to navigation. The Egyptians appeared to be divided among themselves; and I could easily believe that the folly and the violence of Bocchoris had provoked his subjects to a revolt, and kindled a civil war; nor was it long before I became a spectator of an obstinate engagement from the top of my tower.

Those Egyptians who had called in the assistance of the foreign powers, after having favoured the descent, attacked the other party, which was commanded by the king, and animated by his example. He appeared like the god of war; rivers of blood flowed round him; the wheels of his chariot were smeared with gore that was black, clotted, and frothy, and could scarce be dragged over the heaps of slain, which they crushed as they passed: his figure was graceful, and his constitution vigorous; his aspect was haughty and fierce, and his eyes sparkled with rage and despair. Like a high-spirited horse that had never been broke, he was precipitated upon danger by his courage, and his force was not directed by wisdom: he knew not how to retrieve an error, nor to give orders with sufficient exactness; he neither foresaw the evils that threatened him, nor employed the troops he had to the greatest advantage, though he was in the utmost need of more; not that he wanted abilities, for his understanding was equal to his cou-

acabarán los trabajos de la vida, ó llegarán á sus tierras. ¡Ay de mí, que no puedo esperar lo uno, ni lo otro!

Mientras que de esta suerte gastaba lamentos sin fruto, descubrí como un bosque de árboles de naves. Iba el mar cubierto de las velas hinchadas con el viento: espumeaban las ondas á los continuos golpes de innumerables remos, y escuchaba de todas partes una confusion de clamores. Sobre la rivera notaba parte de los Egipcios espantados que corrían á armarse, y otros que parecia salir para recibir á la armada que ya arribaba. Luego percibí, que aquellos extrangeros baxeles eran parte Fenicios, y parte Chipriotas, porque mis infortunios empezaban á hacerme experimentado en lo que mira á la navegacion. Parecianme los Egipcios divididos entre sí propios, y no me costó mucho el creer, que el insensato Bocoris con sus violencias habia ocasionado la rebelion, y encendido entre sus vasallos el furor civil. De lo alto de mi torre fuí espectador de un sangriento combate.

Los Egipcios, que habian llamado á los Extrangeros para el socorro, después de hacerles lado en el desembarco atacaron á los otros Egipcios, que conducia Bocoris. Yo veia á este Rey, que con su propio exemplo daba esfuerzo á los suyos, y parecia un Marte. En su contorno segaba hombres la muerte, y las ruedas de su carroza iban teñidas de negra, espesa, y espumosa sangre, no pudiendo apénas pasar por los montes de los destrozados cadáveres. Este Rey bien cortado, jóven vigoroso, de un ayre altivo y feroz, llevaba en los ojos el furor, y la desesperacion: era como un caballo desbocado. Dexábase llevar sin consideracion de su esfuerzo, el qual no se reglaba con la prudencia. No sabia los yerros, ni los reparaba: no acertaba á dar órdenes, aunque ya resuelto: no preveia los males iminentes, ni escaseaba la gente, de la qual él tenia mayor necesidad que de otra qualquier cosa. No era esto por faltarle el ingenio: tenia igual con su ardimiento la perspicacia de su capacidad; mas no le habia instruido la fortuna contraria.

rage ; but he had never been instructed by adversity. Those who had been entrusted with his education had corrupted an excellent natural disposition by flattery : he was intoxicated with the consciousness of his power , and the advantages of his situation ; he believed that every thing ought to yield to the impetuosity of his wishes , and the least appearances of opposition transported him with rage ; he was then deaf to the expostulations of reason , and had no longer the power of recollection. The fury of his pride transformed him to a brute , and left him neither the affections nor the understanding of a man : the most faithful of his servants fled terrified from his presence ; and he was gentle only to the most abject servility , and the most criminal compliance. Thus his conduct , always violent , was always directly opposite to his interest ; and he was detested by all whose approbation is to be desired. His valour now sustained him long against a multitude of his enemies ; but , at length , the dart of a Phœnician entered his breast ; the reins dropped from his hands , and I saw him fall from his chariot under the feet of his horses. A soldier of the isle of Cyprus immediately struck off his head ; and , holding it up by the hair , shewed it to the confederates as a trophy of their victory. Of this head no time or circumstance can ever obliterate the idea : methinks I still see it dropping blood ; the eyes closed and sunk ; the visage pale and disfigured ; the mouth half open , as if it would still finish the interrupted sentence ; and the look which , even in death , was haughty and threatening. Nor shall I forget , if the gods hereafter place me upon a throne , so dreadful a demonstration that a king is not worthy to command , nor can he be happy in the exercise of his power , but in proportion as he is himself obedient to reason. Alas ! how deplorable is his state , who , by the perversion of that power with which the gods have invested him as the instrument of public happiness , diffuses misery among the multitudes that he governs , and who is known to be a king only as he is a curse ! »

END OF THE SECOND BOOK.

Habian sus maestros con las adulaciones perdido su bello natural, y estaba embriagado de su potencia y propia felicidad. Creia, que debian ceder todas las cosas al impetuoso ardor de sus deseos, y luego encendia su saña qualquier mínima resistencia. En aquel caso no discurria, estaba como fuera de sí propio, y su altivez furiosa lo transformaba en una bestia fiera. Dexáronle en un punto su natural bondad y recta razon, y sus servidores mas fieles eran constreñidos á huir. No amaba á otros, que á aquellos que adulaban á sus pasiones; de donde resultaba, que tomaba siempre, alguna resolucion violenta contra sus verdaderos intereses; y precisaba á que detestarán su modo loco de proceder todas las personas honradas. Mantúvolo su esfuerzo largo tiempo contra la multitud de sus contrarios; mas quedó finalmente oprimido. Yo le ví fenecer, herido de un dardo, con que un soldado Fenicio le atravesó el pecho. Cayó baxo su carro, que proseguian en tirar los caballos; y no pudiendo manejar los riendas, quedó baxo sus pies atropellado. Un soldado Chipriota le cortó la cabeza; y tomándola por los cabellos, la mostró como en triunfo al ejército victorioso. Acordaréme siempre, mientras viviere, haber visto aquella cabeza bañada de su sangre, los ojos medio abiertos, el rostro pálido y demudado; la boca no del todo cerrada, y que parecia querer aun concluir las voces empezadas, y aquel ayre orgulloso, y ceñudo, que ni la misma muerte habia podido borrar de su semblante. Toda mi vida lo tendré delante de mis ojos; y si los dioses me destinan al Reyno, no olvidaré jamas, despues de un exemplar tan funesto, el que no es digno de mandar, ni es dichoso con su potencia un Rey, sino en quanto la rinde al imperio de la razon. ¡O qué desventurado es el hombre, que destinandose á ser antor de la pública felicidad, no es dueño de los otros, sino para labrarles su desventura!

FIN DEL LIBRO SEGUNDO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK III.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS relates, that the successor of Bocchoris releasing all the Tyrian prisoners, he was himself sent to Tyre, on board the vessel of Narbal, who had commanded the Tyrian fleet: that Narbal gave him a description of Pygmalion their king, and expressed apprehensions of danger from the cruelty of his avarice; that he afterwards instructed him in the commercial regulations of Tyre: and that being about to embark in a Cyprian vessel, in order to proceed by the isle of Cyprus to Ithaca, Pygmalion discovered that he was a stranger, and ordered him to be seized; that his life was thus brought into the most imminent danger, but that he had been preserved by the tyrant's mistress Astarbe, that she might, in his stead, destroy a young Lydian of whom she had been enamoured, but who rejected her for another.

CALYPSO was astonished at the wisdom which she discovered in Telemachus; but she was delighted with his ingenuous confession of the errors into which he had been betrayed by the precipitation of his own resolutions, and by his neglect of Mentor's counsel. She was surprised to perceive in the youth such strength and dignity of mind as enabled him to judge of his own actions with impartiality; and, by a review of the failings of his life, become prudent, cautious, and deliberate. — «Proceed,» said she, «my dear Telemachus; for I am impatient to know by what means you escaped from Egypt, and where you again found Mentor, whose loss you had so much reason to regret.»

«Telemachus then continued his relation. The party of Egyptians who had preserved their virtue and their loyalty, being greatly inferior to the rebels, were obliged to yield when the king fell. Another prince, whose name was Termutis, was established in his stead; and the Phœnician and Cyprian troops, after they had concluded a treaty with him, departed. By this treaty all the Phœnician prisoners

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO III.

SUMARIO.

En sucesor de Bacois restituye á Telémaco en su libertad, y es conducido á Tiro. Costumbres de los Tirios, y retrato de su Rey Pigmalion. Huye Telémaco del furor de este Rey, siguiendo los consejos de Narbal, y sale de Fenicia.

ESCUCHABA Calipso muy admirada estas sabias palabras. Lo que mas la tenia entretenida era ver, que el jóven Telémaco contaba ingenuamente los errores que habia cometido, por no haber atendido á las cosas con sosiego, y por no haberse mostrado dócil al sabio Mentor en lo que le advertia. Veia en aquel Príncipe una nobleza, y estúpenda grandeza de ánimo, con que se acusaba á sí propio, y con la qual mostraba haberse aprovechado muy bien de su imprudencia, para hacerse sabio, pródigo y moderado. Proseguid, dixo, amado Telémaco mio, que estoy impacientissima por saber de la suerte que salisteis de Egipto, y donde recobrasteis á Mentor, cuya pérdida justamente os daba que sentir.

Volvió á su discurso Telémaco de esta manera. Los Egipcios mas virtuosos y fieles á su Rey, como eran los mas flacos, y le viéron muerto, se viéron tambien obligados á ceder á los otros, y fué elevado al Trono otro Principe. Despues de hecha alianza con el Rey nuevo, marcháron los Fenicios, junto con las naves de Chipre. Dió el nuevo Rey todos los prisioneros Fenicios, y me comprehendiéron entre ellos. Saca-

were to be restored ; and as I was deemed one of the number , I was set at liberty , and put on board with the rest ; a change of fortune which once more dissipated the gloom of despair , and diffused the dawn of hope in my bosom.

« Our sails were now swelled by a prosperous wind, and the foaming waves were divided by our oars , the spacious deep was covered with vessels , the mariners shouted , the shores of Egypt fled from us , and the hills and mountains grew level by degrees , our view began to be bounded only by the sea and the sky ; and the sparkling fires of the sun , which was rising , seemed to emerge from the abyss of the waters ; his rays tinged with gold the tops of the mountains , which were still just to be perceived in the horizon ; and the deep azure with which the whole firmament was painted , was an omen of an happy voyage.

« Though I had been dismissed as a Phœnician , yet I was not known to any of those with whom I embarked ; and Narbal , who commanded the vessel , asked me my name and my country. « Of what city of Phœnicia are you ? » said he. « Of none , » I replied ; « but I was taken at sea in a Phœnician vessel , and , as a Phœnician , remained a captive in Egypt ; under this name have I been long a slave ; and by this name I am at length set free. » — « Of what country are you then ? » said Narbal. « I am , » said I , « Telemachus , the son of Ulysses , king of Ithaca , an island of Greece : my father has acquired a myghty name among the confederate princes who had laid siege to Troy ; but the gods have not permitted him to return to his kingdom. I have sought him in many countries ; and am , like him , persecuted by Fortune. I am wretched though my life is private , and my wishes are few ; I am wretched , though I desire no happiness but the endearments of my family , and the protection of my father ». « Narbal gazed upon me with astonishment and thought he perceived in my aspect something that distinguishes the favourites of heaven. He was , by nature , generous and sincere ; my misfortunes excited his compassion ; and he addressed me with a confidence

ronme de la torre, embarquéme con los demás, y volvió en lo interior de mi corazón á reverdecer la esperanza.

Llenaba nuestras velas el viento favorable; los remos hendían las espumosas aguas, y el dilatado mar se poblaba de naves: levantaban los marineros alegres gritos de júbilo: alejábanse de nosotros las riberas de Egipto, y poco á poco se nos desaparecían de los ojos los collados y montes. Empezamos ya á no ver mas que cielo y agua, en el punto que parecia, que el sol amanecido despedía del seno de las ondas sus luminosos rayos. Doraba con sus luces las cimas de los montes, que aun se descubrían muy poco sobre el Orizonte; y colorido el cielo de azul obscuro nos ofrecía un viage muy dichoso.

Si bien me restituí á mi libertad como uno de los Fenicios, ninguno de ellos me conocia. Narbal, que gobernaba el baxel en que me embarqué, me preguntó mi nombre, y el pais de mi nacimiento. ¿De qué ciudad de Fenicia sois? me preguntó. No soy de Fenicia, le respondí; mas los Egipcios me habian apresado en el mar sobre uno de vuestros baxeles: he sido largo tiempo esclavo de ellos, como Fenicio: con su nombre he padecido muchos trabajos, y con el mismo nombre he sido libre de mi esclavitud. ¿Pues de qué pais sois? volvíme á preguntar. Soy, volví á responder, Telémaco hijo de Ulises, Rey de Itaca en la Grecia. Hase hecho memorable mi padre entre los Reyes que sitiaron á Troya; mas no le han permitido los dioses que volviera á ver á su patria: yo he andado en su busca por muchos paises, y no menos que él maltratado de la fortuna: veis á un desventurado, que no desea mas que la fortuna de volver á los suyos, y encontrar su padre. Reconocíame admirado Narbal, y le pareció ver en mí no se qué de excelente, que todo es don del cielo, y no se halla en el comun de los hombres. El era generoso y sincero naturalmente: movióse á compasion de mi trabajo, y me habló con la confianza que le

which the gods, doubtless, inspired for my preservation in the most imminent danger.

« Telemachus, » said he, « I doubt not the truth of what you have told me: such, indeed, are the signatures of candour and integrity which I discover in your countenance, that it is not in my power to suspect you of falshood. I am irresistibly determined, by a secret impulse, to believe that you are beloved by the gods, whom I have always served, and that it is their pleasure I also should love you as my son: I will, therefore, give you salutary counsel, for which I ask no return but secrecy. » — « Fear not, » said I, « that I should find it difficult to be silent; for, however young, it is long since I learned not to reveal my own secret, much less not to betray, under any pretence, the secret of another. » — « By what means, » said he, « could the habit of secrecy be acquired by a child? I should rejoice to learn how that may be attained early without which a prudent conduct is impossible, and every other qualification useless. »

« I have been informed, » said I, « that when Ulysses went to the siege of Troy, he placed me upon his knees, threw his arms about me, and after he had kissed me with the utmost tenderness, pronounced these words, though I could not then understand their import: — O my son! may the gods ordain me to perish before I see thee again; or, may the Fatal Sisters cut the threat of thy life while it is yet short, as the reapers cut down a tender flower that is but beginning to blow; may my enemies dash thee in pieces before the eyes of thy mother and of me, if thou art one day to be corrupted and seduced from virtue! O my friends, I leave with you this son, whom I so tenderly love: watch over his infancy; if you have any love for me, keep flattery far from him; and while he is yet flexible, like a young plant, keep him upright: but, above all, let nothing be forgotten that may render him just, beneficent, sincere, and secret. He that is capable of a lie, deserves not the name of a man;

aspiráron los dioses , para sacarme á salvo de un gran peligro.

Telémaco, me dixo, no dudo cosa de lo que me decís; ántes no puedo concebir duda alguna. La virtud y el dolor retratados en vuestro rostro, no me permiten desconfiar de vos. Tambien advierto, que os estiman los dioses, á quienes siempre he honrado, y que quieren que os ame como á hijo. Daréos un consejo saludable, y no os pido sino el secreto por galardón. No temais, le dixe, que tenga yo trabajo en callar lo que quisierais vos comunicarme. Si bien soy jóven, es en mí viejo el hábito de no decir jamas mis secretos; y mucho mas de no descubrir con qualquiera pretexto los de los otros. ¿Cómo habeis podido, dixo él, acostumbraros á guardar secreto en una juventud tan temprana? Tendré sumo deleite de saber el medio conque habeis adquirido esa prenda, sin la qual son inútiles todos los talentos.

Quando se partió Ulises, le satisface, y se partió al asedio de Troya, me tomó sobre sus rodillas y entre sus brazos, segun despues me contáron; y habiéndome alagado tiernamente, me dixo estas palabras; aunque no estaba yo en estado de comprehenderlas: Ruego á los dioses, ó hijo mio, que me guarden de la desgracia de verte faltar nunca á tu obligacion. Antes la cruel tirana parca corte el hilo á tu vida, ahora que apenas se ha formado, como el labrador siega con la hoz la tierna flor, que empieza á despuntar, y puedan mis contrarios acabarte delante de los ojos de tu madre y míos, si en algun tiempo has de seguir el vicio, ó has de abandonar la virtud. A vosotros, amigos míos, prosiguió diciendo, dexo este hijo, á quien amo tanto; si me quereis, tened cuidado de su niñez, desviad de él la adulacion dañosa, y enseñadle á vencerse á sí propio. Sea como un tierno arbolito, que se dobla para enderezarse. Principalmente no dexéis de poner toda la diligencia en ha-

and he that knows not how to be silent, is unworthy the dignity of a prince. »

« I have repeated the very words of Ulysses to you, because, to me, they have been repeated so often, that they perpetually occur to my mind; and I frequently repeat them to myself. The friends of my father began very early to teach me secrecy, by giving me frequent opportunities to practise it; and I made so rapid a progress in the art, that, while I was yet an infant, they communicated to me their apprehensions from the crowd of presumptuous rivals that addressed my mother.

At that time they treated me not as a child, but as a man, whose reason might assist them, and in whose firmness they could confide: they frequently conferred with me, in private, upon the most important subjects; and communicated the schemes which had been formed, to deliver Penelope from her suitors. I exulted in this confidence, which I considered as a proof of my real dignity and importance; I was, therefore, ambitious to sustain my character, and never suffered the least intimation of what had been intrusted with me as a secret, to escape me; the suitors often engaged me to talk, hoping that a child, who had seen or heard any circumstance of importance, would relate it without caution or design; but I had learnt to answer them, without forfeiting my veracity or disclosing my secret. »

« Narbal then addressed me in these terms. « You see, Telemachus, of what power the Phœnicians are possessed, and how much their innumerable fleets are dreaded by the neighbouring nations. The commerce, which they have extend to the Pillars of Hercules, has given them riches which the most flourishing countries cannot supply to themselves: even the great Sesostris could never have prevailed against them at sea; and the veterans, by whom he had subjugated all the East, found it extremely difficult to conquer them in the field. He imposed a tribute, which

cerlo justo, benéfico, sincero, y fiel en guardar los secretos. Qualquiera que es capaz de mentir, es indigno de entrar en el número de los hombres; y qualquiera que no sabe callar, es indigno de gobernar á otros.

Relátoos estas voces, porque los amigos de mi padre tomaron el cuidado de repetírmelas muchas veces. Desveláronse en ejercitarme en el secreto; y yo era aun muy niño quando ya me fiaban todas las aflicciones que padecian, viendo á mi madre expuesta á un gran número de imprudentes que la solicitaban por muger.

Así que me trataban desde entónces como á hombre de razon y confianza, y me comunicaban secretamente los mas grandes negocios, y me informaban de todo aquello que se habia resuelto, para alejar á aquellos que lo preténdian lograr; sentia yo sumo gusto de que fiaran tanto de mí; y jamas he estilado, ni nunca se me ha escapado una sola palabra que pudiera manifestar el mas leve secreto. De ordinario los pretendientes procuraban hacerme hablar, esperando que un niño, que hubiera oido ó visto algo notable, no podria abstenerse de declararlo. Sin embargo, sabia responderles muy bien, sin mentir, y sin descubrir lo que convenia callar.

Entónces me dixo Narbal: Vos veis, ó Telémaco, qual sea el poder de los Fenicios. Ellos son formidables á todas las naciones vecinas con sus innumerables baxeles; y el comercio que extienden hasta las columnas de Hércules, les dan tantas riquezas, que exceden á las de los pueblos mas abundantes. El gran Rey Sesostris, que nunca hubiera podido vencerlos en el mar, tuvo mucho trabajo en vencerlos por tierra con sus exércitos, que habian conquistado á todo el Oriente; y nos puso un tributo, que no le hemos pagado mucho tiempo. Eran sobrado ricos y poderosos los de Fe-

which they have long neglected to pay ; for they are too sensible of their own wealth and power to stoop patiently under the yoke of subjection : they have , therefore , thrown it off ; and the war which Sesostris commenced against them has been terminated by his death. The power of Sesostris was , indeed , rendered formidable by his policy ; but when without his policy his power descended to his son , it was no longer to be dreaded ; and the Egyptians , instead of entering Phœnicia with a military force , to reduce to obedience a revolted people , have been compelled to call in the assistance of the Phœnicians , to deliver them from the oppression of an impious tyrant. This deliverance the Phœnicians have effected , and added new glory to independence , and new power to wealth. But while we deliver others , we enslave ourselves.

« O Telemachus ! do not rashly put your life into the hands of Pygmalion our king : his hands are already stained with the blood of Sichæus , the husband of Dido his sister ; and Dido , impatient to revenge his death , is fled , with the greater part of the friends of virtue and of liberty , in a numerous fleet from Tyre , and has laid the foundations of a magnificent city on the coast of Africa , which she calls Carthage. An insatiable thirst of riches renders Pygmalion every day more wretched and more detestable. In his dominions it is a crime to be wealthy : avarice makes him jealous , suspicious , and cruel : he persecutes the rich , and he dreads the poor.

« But , at Tyre , to be virtuous is yet a greater crime than to be wealthy : for Pygmalion supposes , that virtue cannot patiently endure a conduct that is unjust and infamous ; and , as virtue is an enemy to Pygmalion , Pygmalion is an enemy to virtue. Every incident torments him with inquietude , perplexity , and apprehension ; he is terrified at his own shadow ; and sleep is a stranger to his eyes. The gods have punished him , by heaping treasures before him which he does not dare to enjoy ; and that in which alone he seeks for happiness is the source of his misery. He regrets whatever he gives ; he dreads the loss of the wealth

nicia para soportar con paciencia el yugo de la servidumbre, que se les habia cargado. La muerte no dexó tiempo á Sesostris de concluir la guerra contra nosotros : es verdad que debiamos temerlo todo de su prudencia , harto mas que de su poder ; pero habiendo pasado su poder á manos de su hijo , desproveido de toda prudencia , concluimos que ya no nos quedaba que temer cosa alguna. De hecho los Egipcios , en lugar de entrar con las armas en las manos por nuestro pais para sojuzgarnos de nuevo , se han hallado estrechados á llamarnos para ayudarlos y librarlos de un Rey sacrílego y furibundo. ¡ Y qué gloria con esta accion se ha añadido á la libertad y riqueza de los pueblos Fenicios ! Mas miéntras libertamos á otros , nosotros mismos somos esclavos.

Temed , Telémaco , de caer en las crueles manos de nuestro Rey Pigmalion : él las ha bañado en la sangre de Sichèo , marido de Dido , su hermana. Está llena de horror , y deseo de la venganza , se ha escapado de Tiro con muchas naos , y la ha seguido la mayor parte de los amantes de la virtud , y de la libertad. En las riberas de Africa ha fundado la soberbia Ciudad de Cartago. Pigmalion , aguijado de una sed insaciable de riquezas , se hace siempre mas miserable y odioso á sus vasallos. En Tiro el ser rico es delito : la avaricia le hace desconfiado , sospechoso cruel , y persigue á los ricos , temiendo al mismo tiempo los pobres.

Mayor delito es aun en Tiro el ser virtuoso : pues supone Pigmalion que los buenos no pueden aguantar sus infames injusticias : la virtud le condena , y el resentido vivamente se indigna contra ella. Todo lo conmueve , lo inquieta , y lo atormenta : aun de su sombra teme ; y no duerme de noche ni de dia. Para confundirle , los dioses lo oprimen con tesoros , de los quales no se atreve á gozar : lo que pretende para ser feliz , es puntualmente aquello que le embaraza serlo. Siente privarse de todo lo que da ; y teme siempre perder : se afana por ganar : no se dexa ver casi nunca : estáse solitario , triste y temeroso en los puestos mas retirados de su palacio.

which he possesses, and sacrifices every comfort to the acquisition of more. He is scarce ever to be seen ; but sits in the immost recess of his palace , alone, pensive, and dejected ; his friends dare not approach him , for to approach him is to be suspected as an enemy. A guard , with swords drawn , and pikes levelled , surrounds his dwelling with an horrid security ; and the apartment in which he hides himself consists of thirty chambers , which communicate with each other , and to each of which there is an iron door with six bolts. It is never known in which of these chambers he passes the night ; and it is said , that , the better to secure himself against assassination , he never sleeps in the same two nights together.

He is equally insensible to the joys of society , and the more refined and tender delights of friendship. If he is excited to the pursuit of pleasure , he perceives that pleasure is far from him , and sits down in despair. His eyes are hollow , eager , and piercing ; and he is continually looking round him with a restless and inquisitive suspicion. At every noise , however trivial , he starts , listens , is alarmed , and trembles ; he is pale and emaciated ; the gloom of care is diffused over his countenance , and his brow is contracted into wrinkles. He seldom speaks , but he sighs perpetually ; and the remorse and anguish of his mind are discovered by groans , which he endeavours in vain to suppress : the richest delicacies of his table are tasteless ; and his children , whom he has made his most dangerous enemies , are not the objects of hope , but of terror. He believes himself to be in perpetual danger ; and attempts his own preservation , by cutting off all those whom he fears (not knowing that cruelty , in which alone he confides for safety , will inevitably precipitate his destruction ; and that some of his domestics , dreading the effects of his caprice and suspicion , will suddenly deliver the world from so horrid a monster. « As for me , I fear the gods ; and will , at whatever hazard , continue faithful to the king whom they have set over me ; I had rather he should take away my life than lift my hand against

Sus propios amigos no tienen valor para acercársele, por temor de no hacérsele sospechosos. Al rededor al lugar de su morada tiene siempre un horrible cuerpo de guardia, desnudas las espadas y caladas las picas. Treinta estancias, que tienen comunicacion la una con la otra, y cada una tiene una puerta de hierro con sus gruesos candados, son el lugar en donde se encierra. Jamas se sabe en qual de estas estancias se pone á reposar; y se dice por cierto, que no pasa dos noches seguidas en una propia, por miedo de que en ella lo despedacen.

El no sabe qué cosa sean los dulces placeres, ni la amistad, aun mucho mas suave que qualquier placer. Si se le habla de buscar la alegría, se advierte que rehusa entrar en su corazon, y que huye léjos de él. Sus ojos, retirados ácia el cerebro, estan llenos de un severo y feroz ardor; y van continuamente vagueando por todas partes: aplica atentamente los oidos al ruido mas pequeño: siéntese todo conmovido; y está pálido y flaco, retratándose sus tristes cuidados en el rostro siempre erizado. Calla, suspira, saca del corazon hondos gemidos, ni puede ocultar los remordimientos, que le despedazan continuamente las entrañas. Los manjares mas exquisitos le mueven vómito: sus hijos en lugar de ser su esperanza, son motivo de su temor, y los tiene por sus contrarios mas peligrosos. No ha tenido en toda su vida un momento seguro; y no se mantiene sino á fuerza de derramar la sangre de aquellos á quienes teme. Insensato es, pues no advierte que lo hará fenecer aquella crueldad misma en que se fia. Alguno de sus mismos domésticos, tan desconfiados como él, se dará prisa á sacar del mundo este monstruo. En quanto á mí, yo tengo temor á los dioses, y á toda costa seré fiel á aquel Rey, que ellos me han dado. Primero escogeria que me hiciera morir, que no quitarle la vida ó dexoarlo de defender. En quanto á vos, Telémaco, guardaos bien de decir que sois hijo de Ulises, porque os tendria preso, es-

his, or neglect to defend him against the attempts of another. But do not you, O Telemachus, acquaint him with the name of your father; for he will then certainly shut you up in prison, hoping that Ulysses, when he returns to Ithaca, will pay him a large sum for your ransom. »

« When we arrived at Tyre, I followed the counsel of Narbal, and was soon convinced that all he had related was true; though before, I could scarcely conceive it possible for any man to render himself so extremely wretched as he had represented Pigmalion. « I was the more sensibly touched at the appearances of his tyranny and wretchedness, as they had the force of novelty; and I said to myself. — « This is the man who has been seeking happiness, and imagined it was to be found in unlimited power and inexhaustible wealth: wealth and power he has acquired, but the acquisition has made him miserable. If he was a shepherd, as I lately have been, he would be equally happy in the enjoyment of rural pleasures, which, as they are innocent, are never regretted; he would fear neither daggers nor poison, but would be the love and the lover of mankind: he would not, indeed possess that immense treasure, which, to him who hides it, is useless as an heap of sand, but he would rejoice in the bounty of Nature, by which every want would be supplied. He appears to act only by the dictates of his own will; but he is, indeed, the slave of appetite: he is condemned to do the drudgery of avarice, and to smart under the scourge of fear and suspicion. He appears to have dominion over others, but he is not the master even of himself; for, in every irregular passion, he has not only a master, but a tormentor. »

« Such were my reflections upon the condition of Pygmalion, without having seen him; for he was seen by none; and his people could only gaze, with a kind of secret dread, upon those lofty towers, which were surrounded night and day by his guards, and in which he had immured himself with his treasures as in a prison. I compared this invisible king with Sesostris, the mild, the affable, the good; who was so

perando que volviendo vuestro padre á Itaca, le daría por rescataros, alguna grande suma.

Luego que llegamos á Tiro practiqué sus consejos, y reconocí ser verdad todo lo que me habia referido. No podia yo comprehender cómo podia un hombre hacerse tan infeliz, quanto me parecia Pigmalion. Admirado de un espectáculo tan terrible, y para mí tan nuevo, decia entre mí mismo : He aquí un hombre, que no ha procurado sino hacerse feliz, y ha creido lograrlo por medio de las riquezas, y de una autoridad absoluta y para este fin hace todo lo que puede; sin embargo, con sus riquezas, y con sus autoridad misma es miserable. Si fuera, como no ha mucho tiempo que yo fuí, pastor, seria tan dichoso como lo he sido yo tambien : gozaria de los inocentes deleites de la campaña, y gozaria de ellos sin sobresalto : no temeria al hierro, ni al veneno : amaria á los hombres y seria de ellos amado. No tendria aquellas riquezas que no le son mas útiles que la arena, pues no se atreve á tocar en ellas; pero gozaria realmente los frutos de la tierra, y no estaria sujeto á alguna verdadera necesidad. Parece que este hace quanto quiere; pero está harto léjos de hacerlo : hace lo que le mandan sus pasiones, y le arrebatan siempre la avaricia y sospechas. Parece dueño de todo los demás; pero ni es señor de sí mismo; porque tiene otros tantos dueños, y otros tantos verdugos, quantos son sus violentos deseos.

Discurria á este modo de Pigmalion, sin verlo, porque no se dexaba ver; y solo se miraban con espanto aquellas altas torres, que dia, y noche estaban rodeadas de guardias, y en donde él mismo se habia puesto como en prision, encerrandose allí con sus tesoros. Cotejaba á este Rey invisible con Sesostis, tan dulce, tan accesible, tan afable, tan curioso de ver á los extrangeros, tan atento á escuchar á todos,

easy of access to his subjects , and so desirous to converse with strangers ; so attentive to all who wished to be heard , and so inquisitive after truth , which those who surround a throne are solicitous to conceal. « Sesostris , » said I , « feared nothing , and had nothing to fear ; he shewed himself to all his subjects as to his children : but by Pygmalion , every thing is to be feared , and he fears every thing. This execrable tyrant is in perpetual danger of a violent death , even in the centre of his inaccessible palace , and surrounded by his guards ; but the good Sesostris , when his people were gathered in crowds about him , was in perfect safety , like a kind father , who , in his own house , is surrounded by his children. »

« Pygmalion gave orders to send back the troops of the Isle of Cyprus , who , to fulfil a treaty , had assisted his own in their expedition to Egypt ; and Narbal took this opportunity to set me at liberty. He caused me to pass in review , among the Cyprian soldiers ; for the king always inquired into the minutest incidents with the most scrupulous suspicion. The failing of negligent and indolent princes is the giving themselves up , with a boundless and implicit confidence , to the discretion of some crafty and iniquitous favourite ; but the failing of Pygmalion was to suspect the most ingenuous and upright : he knew not how to distinguish the native features of integrity from the mask of dissimulation : for integrity , who disdained to approach so corrupt a prince , he had never seen : and he had been so often defrauded and betrayed , and had so often detected every species of vice under the semblance of virtue , in the wretches who were about him , that he imagined every man walked in disguise , that virtue existed only in idea , and that all men were nearly the same. When he found one man fraudulent and corrupt , he took no care to displace him for another , because he took it for granted that another would be as bad : and he had a worse opinion of those in whom he discovered an appearance of merit , than of those who were most openly vicious ; because he believed them to be equally knaves , and greater hypocrites.

y á sacar la verdad del pecho de los hombres, la qual se esconde á los soberanos. Sesostris , decia yo , no temia nada , y nada debia temer : dabase á ver á todos sus vasallos , como á sus propios hijos , pero este lo teme todo , y todo lo debe temer. Este ímpio Rey siempre está espuesto á una funesta muerte , aun en su inaccesible palacio , y entre sus guardias mismas ; y al contrario el buen Rey Sesostris estaba asegurado en medio del tropel de los pueblos , como un buen padre dentro de su casa , rodeado de su propia familia.

Ordenó Pigmalion que fueran licenciadas las esquadras de Chipre , que en fuerza de la liga de entrambos pueblos habian ido para ayudar las suyas. Tomó esta ocasion Narbal para restituirme á mi libertad , y me hizo pasar en la reseña entre los soldados Chipriotas ; porque el Rey era sospechoso , aun en las dependencias mas menudas. Es falta de los Príncipes sobrado fáciles , y desaplicados , echarse con ciega confianza en manos de privados astutos y malignos ; y al contrario el defecto de éste era desconfiarse de los hombres de mayor honra. No sabia hacer discrecion entre los hombres rectos , y sinceros , que obran sin disimulo , y por eso jamas habia visto algun hombre de bien ; porque semejantes hombres no van á buscar á un Príncipe tan malvado. De otra parte , desde que habia ocupado el trono , habia visto en los hombres de quienes se habia servido , tanta disimulacion , tanta perfidia , y tan espantosos vicios disfrazados con apariencia de virtud , que los miraba á todos , sin exceptuar alguno , como si todos tuvieran el corazon diferente de su semblante. Imagin á base que no habia en el mundo virtud alguna verdadera.

« But to return to myself. The piercing suspicion of the king did not distinguish me from the Cyprian soldiers ; but Narbal trembled for fear of a discovery , which would have been fatal both to him and to me ; he , therefore , expressed the utmost impatience to see me embark ; but I was detained at Tyre a considerable time by contrary winds.

« During this interval I acquainted myself with the manners of the Phœnicians , a people that were become famous through all the known world. I admired the situation of their city , which is built upon an island in the midst of the sea. The neighbouring coast is rendered extremely delightful by its uncommon fertility , the exquisite flavour of its fruits , the number of towns and villages which are almost contiguous to each other , and the excellent temperature of the climate ; it is sheltered by a ridge of mountains from the burning winds that pass over the southern continent , and refreshed by the northern breezes that blow from the sea. It is situated at the foot of Libanus , whose head is concealed within the clouds , and hoary with everlasting frost. Torrents of water , mingled with snow , rush from the craggy precipices that surround it ; and at a small distance below is a vast forest of cedars , which appear to be as ancient as the earth , and almost as lofty as the sky. The declivity of the mountain , below the forest , is covered with pasture , where innumerable cattle and sheep are continually feeding among a thousand rivulets of the purest water : and at the foot of the mountain below the pastures , the plain has the appearance of a garden , where spring and autumn seem to unite their influence , to produce at once both flowers and fruit , which are never parched by the pestilential heat of the southern blast , nor blighted by the piercing cold of the northern tempest.

Volviendo á mi propósito , me procuré mezclar entre los Chipriotas , y me salvé de la desconfianza perspicaz de Pigmalion. Narbal se estremecía de miedo de que me descubrieran : lo qual á entrambos nos hubiera costado la vida. No se pudiera creer su impaciencia por vernos ya partir ; pero el viento contrario nos detuvo por largo en tiempo Tyro.

Aprovechéme de esta detencion para informarme de las costumbres de los Fenicios , tan célebres en todos los pueblos que se conocen. Admiraba la feliz situacion de aquella gran Ciudad , que está en medio del mar en una isla. La vecina rivera es deliciosa por su fertilidad , por los frutos exquisitísimos que lleva , por el número de las ciudades , y poblaciones que entre sí se tocan ; finalmente por la apacibilidad del clima ; porque las montañas defienden la rivera de los ardientes ayres del Mediodia. El viento que sopla del norte por la parte del mar la recrea con su frescura. El pais está al pie del Líbano , cuya cima se esconde entre las nubes , y va á herir las estrellas. Su frente está cubierta de perpetuo hielo ; y de las altas puntas de aquellos precipicios , que le coronan , se descuelgan , como torrentes , algunos rios llenos de nieves. Abaxo se dilata una gran selva de cedros muy antiguos , que parecen tan viejos como la tierra en que están plantados , y que se levantan , como haciendo ademan de querer dividir las nubes con sus frondosas ramas. Esta selva en la vertiente del monte tiene á sus pies muchos muy pingües pastos. Véanse en ellos vagarosos los torós , y mugiendo : las ovejas valando , y juntas con sus tiernos corderillos , que no paran de jugar sobre la fresca hierba. Discurren por allí mil diversos arroyos , que reparten sus aguas cristalinas á diferentes campos , y los alegran todos. Véese al fin mas abajo de aquellos pastos la porcion inferior del monte , que puede equivocarse con un jardin. Reynan allí concordes , y en compañía Primavera y Otoño , para unir en aquella estacion las flores con los frutos. Jamas se han atrevido á dealustrar la belleza que adorna á este jardin , ni el pestilente viento de Mediodia , que lo seca y abrasa todo : ni el desapiadado Aquilon , que todo lo desaliña.

« Near this delightful coast, the island on which Tyre is built emerges from the sea. The city seems to float upon the waters, and looks like the sovereign of the deep. It is crowded with merchants of every nation, and its inhabitants are themselves the most eminent merchants in the world. It appears, at first, not to be the city of any particular people, but to be common to all, as the centre of their commerce. There are two large moles, which, like two arms stretched out in the sea, embrace a spacious harbour, which is a shelter from every wind. The vessels in this harbour are so numerous, as almost to hide the water in which they float; and the masts look at a distance like a forest. All the citizens of Tyre apply themselves to trade; and their wealth does not render them impatient of that labour by which it is increased. Their city abounds with the finest linen of Egypt, and cloth that has been doubly dyed with the Tyrian purple; a colour which has a lustre that time itself can scarce diminish, and which they frequently heighten by embroidery of gold and silver. The commerce of the Phœnicians extends to the Straits of Gades; they have even entered the vast ocean by which the world is encircled, and made long voyages upon the Red Sea to islands which are unknown to the rest of mankind, from whence they bring gold, perfumes, and many animals that are to be found in no other country.

« I gazed, with insatiable curiosity, upon this great city, in which every thing was in motion: and where none of those idle and inquisitive persons are to be found, who, in Greece, saunter about the public places in quest of news, or observe the foreigners who come on shore in the port. The men are busied in loading the vessels, in sending away or in selling their merchandize, in putting their warehouses in order, or in keeping an account of the sums due to them from foreign merchants; and the women are constantly employed in spinning wool, in drawing patterns for embroidery, or in folding up rich stuffs.

« By what means, » said I to Narbal, « have the

La isla en que está fabricada la ciudad de Tyro, se levanta en el mar cerca de una playa tan bella. Parece que la gran ciudad nada sobre las aguas, y es la reyna de todo el piélago. Los mercaderes de todas las regiones del mundo van á parar á ella, y estos mismos vecinos son los mas célebres del universo. Entrando en la ciudad, al instante se ofrece que no es ciudad de un pueblo particular, sino como de todos los pueblos, el centro de su comercio. Tiene dos grandes muelles, que son como dos brazos, que alargándose al mar, abrazan un vasto puerto, adonde no penetran los vientos. En este puerto se ve como una selva de árboles de navios, que concurren en tan gran número, que apenas puede verse el mar, que los sostiene. Todos los ciudadanos se aplican al comercio, y sus grandes riquezas no les hacen jamas desapacible la fatiga precisa para aumentarlas. Véanse allí en todas partes el finísimo lino de Egipto, y la púrpura Tyria, dos veces teñida de un color brillante, y maravilloso. Esta duplicada tintura es tan viva, que el tiempo no la puede deslustrar y solamente tiñen con ella la fina lana, que entretejen con plata y oro. Los Fenicios comercian con todos los pueblos hasta el estrecho de Hércules: tambien se han internado en el vasto Océano, que rodea toda la tierra: han hecho tambien muchas largas navegaciones en el mar Rojo; y por esta derrota van á buscar en islas desconocidas oro, aromas, y varios animales, que no se hallan en otras partes.

No podia saciarme de ver esta gran ciudad, en la qual todo estaba en movimiento. No conocia allí, como en las islas de Grecia, hombres sin trabajar, y curiosos, que fueran á buscar novedades á la plaza pública, y á mirar á los extranjeros, que llegaban al puerto. Los hombres están empleados en descargar sus baxeles, en tragar, ó en vender sus mercaderías, en acomodar sus almacenes, en tener una justa cuenta de lo que les están debiendo los otros mercaderes extranjeros, y las mugeres no cesan de hacer dibuxos de bordaduras, de plegar sus preciosos paños ni de hilar sus lanas.

¿De dónde es, le decia yo á Narbal, que los Feni-

Phœnicians monopolized the commerce of the world, and enriched themselves at the expence of every other nation? » — « You see the means, » answered Nabal; « the situation of Tyre renders it more fit for commerce than any other place; and the invention of navigation is the peculiar glory of our country. If the accounts are to be believed that are transmitted to us from the most remote antiquity, the Tyrians rendered the waves subservient to their purpose long before Typhis and the Argonauts became the boast of Greece: they were the first who defied the rage of the billows and the tempest on a few floating planks, and fathomed the abysses of the ocean. They reduced the theories of Egyptian and Babylonian science to practice, regulating their course, where there was no land-mark, by the stars; and they brought innumerable nations together which the sea had separated. The Tyrians are ingenious, persevering, and laborious: they have, beside, great manual dexterity; and are remarkable for temperance and frugality. The laws are executed with the most scrupulous punctuality; and the people are, among themselves, perfectly unanimous; and to strangers, they are, above all others, friendly, courteous, and faithful.

« Such are the means; nor is it necessary to seek for any other, by which they have subjected the sea to their dominion, and included every nation in their commerce. But if jealousy and faction should break in among them: if they should be seduced by pleasure, or by indolence; if the great should regard labour and economy with contempt, and the manual arts should no longer be deemed honourable; if public faith should not be kept with the stranger, and the laws of a free commerce should be violated; if manufactures should be neglected, and those sums spared which are necessary to render every commodity perfect in its kind; that power, which is now the object of your admiration, would soon be at an end. »

« But how, » said I, « can such a commerce be established at Ithaca? » — « By the same means, » said he, « that it has been established here. Receive all strangers with readiness and hospitality: let them find sa-

cios se han hecho dueños del comercio de todo el mundo, y se enriquecen tanto á expensas de las demas naciones? Veis, me respondió, cuánto sea oportuna á la navegacion la situacion de Tyro? Los Tyrios, si debemos creer lo que se refiere de siglos muy antiguos, fuéron los primeros que osáron á meterse en un fragil leño á discrecion del agua: domáron el orgullo de las ondas; y léjos de la tierra observáron á las estrellas segun la ciencia de los Egipcios y Babilonios; y unióron tantos pueblos, que estaban separados con el mar. Ellos son industriosos, pacientes, trabajadores, sobrios, y económicos: tienen modo perfecto de vivir: estan entre sí totalmente concordes. Jamas ha habido, pueblo mas constante, mas sincero, mas fiel, mas cortes que este con los extranjeros.

He aquí, sin buscar otra ocasion lo que les da el dominio del mar, y hace florecer en su puerto un tan provechoso comercio. Si se introduxeran entre ellos la division y zelos: si empezáran á afeminarse con el ocio y delicias: si los principales entre ellos despreciáran el trabajo, y la economía: si dexaran las artes de apreciarse en esta ciudad: si ellos faltáran en la fe á los extranjeros: si alteráran las reglas del libre comercio en la parte mas minima; vierais bien presto caer esta Potencia, que admirais al presente.

Pero declaradme, decia yo, el modo de establecer en Itaca tambien algun dia semejante comercio. Haced, me respondió, de la forma que aquí se hace: acoged bien y cortesmente á todos los extranjeros:

fety, convenience, and liberty, in your ports; and be careful never to disgust them by avarice or pride. He that would succeed in a project of gain, must never attempt to gain too much: and upon proper occasions, must know how to lose. Endeavour to gain the good will of foreigners; rather suffer some injury than offend them by doing justice to yourself; and specially, do not keep them at a distance by an haughty behaviour. Let the laws of trade be neither complicated nor burdensome; but do not violate them yourself, nor suffer them to be violated with impunity. Always punish fraud with severity; nor let even the negligence or prodigality of a trader escape; for follies, as well as vice, effectually ruin trade, by ruining those who carry it on. But above all, never restrain the freedom of commerce, by rendering it subservient to your own immediate gain; the pecuniary advantages of commerce should be left wholly to those by whose labour it subsists, lest this labour, for want of a sufficient motive, should cease; there are more than equivalent advantages of another kind, which must necessarily result to the prince, from the wealth which a free commerce will bring into his state; and commerce is a kind of spring, which, to divert from its natural channel, is to lose.

There are but two things which invite foreigners, profit and convenience: if you render commerce less convenient, or less gainful, they will insensibly forsake you; and those that once depart will never return; because other nations, taking advantage of your imprudence, will invite them to their ports, and an habit will soon be contracted of trading without you. It must, indeed, be confessed, that the glory even of Tyre has for some time been obscured. O my dear Telemachus, hadst thou beheld it before the reign of Pygmalion, how much greater would have been thy astonishment. The remains of Tyre only are now to be seen; ruins which have yet the appearance of magnificence, but will shortly be mingled with the dust.

O unhappy Tyre! to what a wretch art thou subjected; thou to whom, as to the sovereign of the world, the sea so lately rolled the tribute of every nation!

procurad que hallen en vuestros puertos seguridad, conveniencia, y entera libertad, y no os dexéis arrabatar de la avaricia, ó de la soberbia. El modo verdadero de ganar mucho, es no querer jamas ganar demasiado, y acertar á perder á tiempo. Hacedos amar de todos los extrangeros, y sufridles tambien alguna cosa: temed mover zelos con vuestra altivez: sed constante en mantener las reglas del comercio, y sean ellas sencillas y faciles: acostumbraos á observarlas indispensablemente: castigad con severidad los engaños, y tambien las negligencias, y el fausto de los mercaderes, que arruinan el tragino, arruinando á los que lo exercitan, pero especialmente nunca os metais en inquietar el comercio, para regirlo segun vuestras ideas. Importa que el Príncipe no se entrometa á alterarlo, y que dexé á sus súbditos todo el provecho, los quales tambien tienen el manejo: de otra manera les quitará el aliento. De esta manera sacará grandes conveniencias, mediante las muchas riquezas que entrarán dentro de sus estados. El comercio es como algunas fuentes, que se secan en queriendo torcer su curso.

Solo son el provecho, y la conveniencia los que alhagan para venir á vuestras ciudades á los extrangeros. Si les haceis ménos cómodo y util el comercio, se retirarán sin sentir, y no volverán mas, porque otros pueblos, aprovechándose de vuestra imprudencia, los atraen á sí, y los acostumbran á privarse de vos. Tambien es menester que os confiese, que de algun tiempo acá la gloria de los Tyrios ha perdido no poco de su esplendor. ¡O si la hubiérais visto, mi querido Telémaco, primero que reynara Pigmalion, harto mas os hubiera admirado! Ahora aquí no advertis sino las funestas reliquias de una grandeza, que está á riesgo de arruinarse del todo.

¡Infeliz Tyro, en qué manos has dado! El mar te pagaba ántes el tributo de todos los pueblos del mundo. Pigmalion teme á los extrangeros de la misma manera

« Both strangers and subjects are equally dreaded by Pygmalion ; and , instead of throwing open our ports to traders of the most remote countries , like his predecessors , without any stipulation or enquiry , he demands an exact account of the number of vessels that arrive , the countries to which they belong , the name of every person on board , the manner of their trading , the species and the value of their commodities , and the time they are to continue upon his coast : but this is not the worst ; for he puts in practice all the little artifices of cunning to draw the foreign merchants into some breach of his innumerable regulations , that under the appearance of justice , he may confiscate their goods. He is perpetually harassing those persons whom he imagines to be most wealthy ; and increasing , under various pretences , the incumbrances of trade , by multiplying taxes ; he affects to merchandize himself ; but every one is afraid to deal with him And thus commerce languishes ; foreigners forget , by degrees , the way to Tyre , with which they were once so well acquainted : and , if Pygmalion persists in a conduct so impolitic and so injurious , our glory and our power will be transferred to some other nation , which is governed upon better principles. »

« I then enquired of Narbal by what means the Tyrians had become so powerful at sea ; for I was not willing to be ignorant of any of the arts of government. « We have , » said he , « the forests of Lebanon , which furnish sufficient timber for building ships ; and we are careful to reserve it all for that purpose , never suffering a single tree to be felled but for the use of the public : and we have a great number of artificers , who are very skilful in this species of architecture. » — « Where could these artificers be procured ? » said I. « They are the gradual produce , » said he , « of our own country. When those who excel in any art are constantly and liberally rewarded , it will soon be practised in the greatest possible perfection : for persons of the highest abilities will always apply themselves to those arts by which great rewards are to be obtained. But , besides pecuniary rewards , whoever

que á sus propios súbditos : en vez de abrir sus puertos con libertad plenísima á las mas remotas naciones , quiere saber el número de baxeles que llegan á su país , el número de los hombres que llevan , la especie de su negocio , la calidad , el precio de sus mercaderías , y el tiempo que aquí se han de detener. Aun hace mas ; porque se vale de supercherías , para sorprender á los mercaderes , y confiscarles sus cargas. Inquieta á aquellos que tiene por mas acomodados : pone con diversos pretextos muchas nuevas imposiciones : quiere él tambien meterse en el comercio , y cada uno teme de tener que tratar negocios , é intereses con él. Por eso desfallece el comercio : los extrangeros se olvidan poco á poco del camino de Tyro , que en lo pasado hacian con tanto gusto : y si no trueca Pigmalion su modo de proceder , nuestra gloria , y nuestra riqueza pasarán de aquí á poco á algun otro país mejor gobernado que el nuestro.

Quise despues saber de Narbal de qué suerte los Tyrios se habian en el mar hecho tan poderosos ; porque me queria instruir de lo que sirve al gobierno de un Reyno. Tenemos , respondió , las selvas del Líbano , que nos proveen de toda la madera necesaria á la fábrica de los baxeles , y la guardamos cuidadosamente para este uso. No se corta jamas , si no lo piden las ocurrencias públicas de la fábrica ; y tenemos artifices excelentísimos. ¿ Y cómo , repliqué , los habeis podido encontrar ? Ellos , dixo , se han hecho poco á poco aquí en nuestro pais. Quando son bien premiados los que son excelentes en las artes , se asegura tener presto de aquellos , que las conducen á su ultima perfeccion ; porque los sugetos que tienen mayor conocimiento , y talento mayor , no dexan de aplicarse á aquellas artes , á que van enlazados grandes galardones. Aquí se honra á todos aquellos , que hacen progreso en

excels in any art or science upon which navigation depends, receives great honour : a good geometrician is much respected ? an able astronomer yet more ; and no rewards are thought too great for a pilot who excels in his profession. A skilful carpenter is not only well paid, but treated with some deference ; and even a dexterous rower is sure of a reward proportioned to his services ; his provision is the best of its kind, proper care is taken of him when he is sick, and of his wife and children when he is absent ; if any perish by shipwreck, their families are provided for ; and those who have been in the service a certain number of years are dismissed with honour, and enabled to spend the remainder of their days without labour or solicitude. We are, therefore, never in want of skilful mariners ; for it is the ambition of every father to qualify his son for so advantageous a station : and boys, almost as soon as they can walk, are taught to manage an oar, to climb the shrouds, and to despise a storm. Men are thus rendered willingly subservient to the purposes of government, by an administration so regular, that it operates with the force of custom ; and by rewards so certain, that the impulse of hope is irresistible : and, indeed, by authority alone little can be effected : mere obedience, like that of a vassal to his lord, is not sufficient ; obedience must be animated by affection ; and men must find their own advantage in that labour which is necessary to effect the purposes of others. »

« After this discourse Narbal carried me to the public storehouses, the arsenals, and all the manufactories that relate to shipping. I enquired minutely into every article, and wrote down all that I learnt, lest some useful circumstances should afterwards be forgotten : »

« But Narbal, who was well acquainted with the temper of Pygmalion, and had conceived a zealous affection for me, was still impatient for my departure, dreading a discovery by the king's spies, who were night and day going about the city ; but the wind would not yet permit me to embark ; and one

las artes y ciencias, que son útiles á la navegacion. Se estima un buen Geómetra : se aprecia mucho un perito Astrónomo : se colma de riquezas á un Piloto, que en su ministerio se adelanta á los otros : no se desprecia, ántes es bien tratado, y se paga bien á un buen carpintero. Aun los buenos remeros tienen asegurados sus premios, proporcionados al servicio que hacen. Son bien alimentados, y se tiene cuidado de ellos, quando están enfermos ; y en su ausencia, se cuida de sus mugeres, é hijos. Si en algun naufragio perecen se recompensa á sus familias el daño y se despide para sus casas á los que ya han servido cierto tiempo. De esta suerte se tienen tantos remeros como se quiere : el padre gusta de criar á los hijos en ministerio tan útil, y se apresura á enseñarles desde su mas tierna niñez á manejar el remo, y el cable, y hacer desprecio de las borrascas. Así con el premio y buen orden se obliga sin violencia á los hombres á obedecer. La sola autoridad nunca aprovechá, y la sumision de los súbditos no basta : es menester ganar los corazones, y hacer que hallen los hombres su ventaja en las cosas en que quieren servirnos con su industria.

Despues de éste discurso, me conduxo Narbal á ver los almacenes, los arsenales, y los oficiales de todas profesiones, que sirven á la fabrica de las naves. Preguntaba yo las particularidades de las cosas que parecian mas menudas, y pasaba á escribir quanto habia entendido porque no se me fuera de la memoria alguna circunstancia de consideracion.

Entre tanto Narbal, que conocia á Pigmalion, y me amaba con gran ternura, aguardaba impaciente mi partida, temiendo ser descubierto de las espías del Rey, que andaban dando vuelta á la ciudad dia y noche. Pero no nos permitian aun los vientos hacernos á la vela. Miéntras estábamos ocupados en visitar

day while we were busied in examining the harbour with more than common attention, and questioning several merchants of commercial affairs, one of Pygmalion's officers came up to Narbal, and said. « The king has just learnt, from the captain of one of the vessels which returned with you from Egypt, that you have brought hither a person, who passes for a native of Cyprus; but who is, indeed, a stranger of some other country. It is the king's pleasure, that this person be immediately secured, and the country to which he belongs certainly known, and for this you are to answer with your head. » — Just at this moment, I had left Narbal at a distance, to examine more nearly the proportions of a Tyrian vessel which was almost new, and which was said to be the best sailer that had ever entered the port; and I was then stating some questions to the shipwright under whose directions it had been built.

« Narbal answered with the utmost consternation and terror, « That the foreigner was really a native of the island of Cyprus, and that he would immediately go in search of him; » but the moment the officer was out of sight, he ran to me, and acquainted me with my danger. « My apprehensions, » said he, « were but too just: my dear Telemachus, our ruin is inevitable: the king, who is night and day tormented with mistrust, suspects that you are not a Cyprian, and has commanded me to secure your person under pain of death! What shall we do? May the gods deliver us by more than human wisdom, or we perish: I must produce you to the king: but do you confidently affirm that you are a Cyprian of the city of Amathus; and son of a statuary of Venus: I will confirm your account, by declaring that I was formerly acquainted with your father; and perhaps the king, without entering into a more severe scrutiny, will suffer you to depart; this, however, is the only expedient, by which a chance of life can be procured for us both. »

« To this counsel of Narbal, I answered, « Let an unhappy wretch perish, whose destruction is the decree of fate. I can die without terror; and I would not

curiosamente el puerto, vimos que venia á encontrarnos un ministro de Pigmalion, el qual dixo á Narbal: El Rey ha tenido noticia por uno de sus capitanes de los navíos que con vos han vuelto de Egipto, que habeis conducido un extrangero, que es falsamente reputado por Chipriota: quiere que sea detenido, y que se sepa seguramente de su pais: vos los aseguraréis con vuestra cabeza. En aquel mismo punto me habia yo alejado, para observar de mas cerca las proporciones que los Tyrios habian practicado muy buen en la fábrica de un baxel casi nuevo: el qual, segun decian, caminaba á la vela mas ligero que qualquiera otro que se hubiera visto en el puerto, y hacia algunas preguntas al artífice que le habia ajustado las proporciones.

Soprendido, y espantado Narbal, respondió: Yo buscaré á ese criado extrangero, que ciertamente es de Chipre. Pero en perdiendo de vista al ministro, corrió ácia mí, para darme aviso de mi peligro. Sobrado me lo habia pronosticado. O querido Telémaco, nosotros estamos perdidos. El Rey, que noche, y día esta atormentado de la desconfianza, sospecha que vos no seais Chipriota: manda que seais detenido, y me quiere quitar la vida, si no os pongo en sus manos. ¿Qué hemos de hacer? Dadnos prudencia, ó dioses, como hemos menester, para salir de tan crecido riesgo. Será menester, ó Telemaco, que yo os guie al palacio de Pigmalion: vos afirmareis que sois de la Isla de Chipre, nacido en la ciudad de Amatunta, hijo de un estatuario de Venus: yo atestiguaré que tiempo ha conocí á vuestro padre; y por ventura el Rey os dexará partir, sin exámen mayor de la verdad: no discurro otro modo para salvar la vida de entrambos.

Dexad pues, respondí á Narbal, que se pierda un desdichado, que el destino quiere que muera. Se morir, ó Narbal, y os debo demasiado, para poder dexarme per-

involve you in my calamity , because I would live without ingratitude ; but y cannot consent to lie. I am a Greek ; and to say that I am a Cyprian , is to cease to be a man : the gods , who know my sincerity , may , if it is consistent with their wisdom , preserve me by their power ; but fear shall never seduce me to attempt my own preservation by falshood. »

« This falshood , » answered Narbal , « is wholly without guilt , nor can it be condemned even by the gods : it will produce ill to none ; it will preserve the innocent ; and it will no otherwise deceive the king , than as it will prevent his incurring the guilt of cruelty and injustice. Your love of virtue is romantic , and your zeal for religion superstitious. »

« That it is a falshood , » said I , « is to me a sufficient proof , that it can never become a man who speaks in the presence of the gods , and is under perpetual and unlimited obligations to truth. He who offers violence to truth , as he counteracts the dictates of conscience , must offend the gods , and injure himself : do not , therefore , urge me to a conduct that is unworthy both of you and of me. If the gods regard us with pity , they can easily effect our deliverance ; and if they suffer us to perish , we shall die martyrs of truth , and leave one example to mankind , that virtue has been preferred to life. My life has been already too long , since it has only been a series of misfortunes ; and it is the danger of yours only , my dear Narbal , that I regret. Why , alas , should your friendship for a wretched fugitive be fatal to yourself ! »

« This dispute , which had continued a considerable time , was at length interrupted by the arrival of a person , who had run till he was not able immediately to speak ; but we soon learnt ; that he was another of the king's officers , and had been dispatched by Astarbe. Astarbe had beauty that appeared to be more than human , and a mind that had almost the power of fascination ; her general manner was sprightly , her particular address soft and insinuating ; but with all this power to please , she was , like the Syrens , cruel and malignant ; and knew how to conceal the worst purposes by inscrutable dissimulation. She had
gained

suadir á atraeros tambien á vos á mi misma infelicidad. No puedo reducirme á mentir : no soy de Chipre , y no puedo decir que lo soy. Los dioses ven mi sinceridad , y á ellos toca guardar mi vida con su poder ; mas no quiero salvarla mintiendo.

Es del todo inocente ésta mentira , me replicó Narbal : los dioses no la pueden condenar. No hace mal á ninguno , salva á dos inocentes la vida , y no engaña al Rey , sino en quanto le estorva que execute una atrocidad. Adelantais demasiado el amor de la virtud , ó Telémaco , y el temor de ofender á la Religion.

Basta , le dixe yo , que la mentira sea lo que es , para no ser digna de un hombre , que habla en la presencia de los dioses , y tiene obligacion á la verdad. El que hace injuria á la verdad , hace ofensa á los dioses , y se injuria á sí mismo , porque habla contra la propia conciencia. Dexaos , Narbal , de proponerme una cosa , que es indigna de ambos á dos. Si se compadecen los dioses de nuestros males , ellos sabrán bien librarnos : si quisieren dexarnos perecer , muriendo serémos víctimas de la verdad , y dexarémos á los á hombres exemplo de anteponer á una larga vida un virtud sin mancha. La mia es ya demasiado larga , siendo tan infelice. Por vos solo , ó caro Narbal mio , se me entenece el corazon. ¿ Es posible que vuestro amor ácia un desventurado extranjero os habia de ser tan fatal ?

Perseveramos largo en ésta especie de diferencia , y al fin vimos llegar un hombre , que venia muy afanado. Era éste un ministro de Pigmalion , que venia de parte de Astarbé. Era ésta una muger hermosa como una deidad , y unia á la belleza del cuerpo la del alma : era lisonjera , festiva , y tenia el arte de saberse insinuar en los corazones ajenos. Sin embargo , con una dulzura aparente tenia un pecho cruel y lleno de malicia ; mas sabia ocultar sus sentimientos malvados con un profundo artificio. Habia sabido ganarse el cariño de Pigmalion con su hermosura , con su vivacidad , con su suave voz y harmoniosa lira ;

gained an absolute ascendancy over Pygmalion by her beauty and her wit, the sweetness of her song, and the harmony of her lyre; and Pygmalion, in the ardour of his passion for this mistress, had put away Topha his queen. He thought only how he should gratify Astarbe, who was enterprising and ambitious; and his avarice, however infamous, was scarce more a curse, than this extravagant fondness for this woman. But though he was passionately enamoured of her, she regarded him with contempt and aversion; she disguised, indeed, her real sentiments; and appeared to desire life itself only as the means of enjoying his society, at the very moment in which her heart sickened at his approach.

« At this time, there was, at Tyre, a young Lydian named Melachon, who was extremely beautiful, but dissolute, voluptuous, and effeminate; his principal care was to preserve the delicacy of his complexion, and to spread his flaxen hair in ringlets over his shoulders, to perfume his person, adjust his dress and chaunt amorous ditties to the music of his lyre. Of this youth Astarbe became enamoured to distraction; but he declined her favours, because he was himself equally enamoured of another, and dreaded the jealousy of the king. Astarbe perceived herself slighted; and in the rage of disappointment, resolved, that he who rejected her love, should at least gratify her revenge: she thought of representing Melachon to the king, as the stranger whom he had been informed Narbal had brought into Tyre; and after whom he had caused enquiry to be made.

In this fraud she succeeded by her own arts of persuasion, and by bribing to secrecy all who might have discovered it to Pygmalion; for as he neither loved virtue himself, nor could discover it in others, he was surrounded by abandoned mercenaries, who would, without scruple, execute his commands, however iniquitous and cruel; to these wretches, the authority of Astarbe was formidable; and they assisted her to deceive the king, lest they should give offence to an imperious woman, who monopolized his confidence. Thus Melachon, though

y Pigmalion ciego por ella con una violenta pasión, habia dado de mano á su consorte la Reyna Tafa. No cuidada sino de satisfacer las pasiones de la ambiciosa Astarvé. El amor á ésta muger no le era ménos funesto, que su infame avaricia. Mas con todo que élla la tenia grande afición, ella le despreciaba, y abominaba; però escondia la verdad de su afecto, y fingia no querer la vida sino para él solo.

Al mismo tiempo que ella no podia sufrirlo, habia en Tiro un jóven Lidio, por extremo galan; pero muy afeminado, y anegado en los gustos: llamabase Malacon. No discurría este sino en guardar su delicadeza, peinar sus rubios y rizados cabellos, que baxaban hasta la cintura, perfumar sus vestidos, darles gracioso aliño, y finalmente cantar, acompañado de su lira, amorosas cauciones. Vióle Astarbé, lo amó y dió en una furiosa pasión. El no hizo caso de ella, porque estaba en exceso enamorado de otra muger, y á mas de eso temia arriesgarse á los crueles zelos de Pigmalion. Viéndose despreciada Astarbé, se dexó arrebatarse de la cólera. En su despecho se le ofreció que podia hacer creer que Malacon era el extrangero que hacia el Rey buscar, y se decía haber arribado en el baxel de Narbal.

En efecto lo dió á entender así á Pigmalion, y coe chó á todos los que hubieran podido desengañarlo. Como no amaba el Rey á los virtuosos, ni sabia hacer de ellos discrecion; así no le cercaban sino hombres avarientos, engañosos, y prontos en executar sus injustos y violentos órdenes. Temian éstos la autoridad de Astarbé, y ayudaban á sus engaños, temiendo disgustar á esta muger altiva, que tenia toda la confianza de Pigmalion. De ésta manera al jóven Malacon, bien que le conocia por Lidio toda la ciudad, se impuso el nombre de aquel extrangero, á quien Narbal

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known to be a Lydian by the whole city, was cast into prison, as the foreigner whom Narbal had brought out of Egypt.

« But Astarbe fearing that, if Narbal should come before the king, he might discover the imposture, dispatched this officer with the utmost expedition, who delivered her commands in these words, « It is the pleasure of Astarbe, that you do not discover the stranger whom you brought hither to the king; she requires nothing of you but to be silent, and will herself be answerable for whatever is necessary to your justification; but let your friend immediately embark with the Cyprians, that he may no more be seen in the city. » Narbal, who received this proposal of deliverance with ecstasy, readily promised to fulfil the conditions; and the officer, well satisfied to have succeeded in his commission, returned to Astarbe to make his report.

« Upon this occasion, we could not but admire the divine goodness, which had so suddenly rewarded our integrity, and interposed, almost by a miracle, in favour of them that were ready to have sacrificed every thing to truth.

We reflected, with horror, upon a king who had given himself up to avarice and sensuality. « He who is thus suspicious of deceit, » said we, « deserves to be deceived; and, indeed, that which he deserves he suffers: for, as he suspects the upright of hypocrisy, he puts himself into the hands of wretches who profess the villany that they practise; and almost every other person in the kingdom perceives the fraud by which he is over-reached. Thus, while Pygmalion is made the tool of a shameful strumpet, the gods render the falshood of the wicked an instrument of preservation to the righteous, to whom it is less dreadful to perish than to lie! »

« At the very time in which we were making these reflections, we perceived the wind change. It now blew fair for the Cyprian fleet; and Narbal cried out, « The gods declare for thee, my dear Telemachus, and will complete my deliverance! Fly from this cruel, this execrable coast! To follow thee, to what,

habla conducido de Egipto, y con ese nombre fué puesto en prision.

Astarbé, que temió que fuera Narbal á hablar al Rey, y descubriera su calumnia, le envió con solicitud un ministro, que le refiriera éstas voces : Astarbé os manda que no deis parte al Rey de quién es aquel extrangero que él busca. No pretende de vos sino el silencio, y sabrá obrar de forma que el Rey quede satisfecho de vos. En tanto, porque no sea mas notado en la ciudad, dad prisa á que se embarque con los de Chipre el jóven forastero que traxisteis de Egipto. Muy alegre Narbal, por poder escapar su vida, y la mia, ofreció callar, y se volvió el ministro á dar cuenta á Astarbé de su comision con gusto, por haber alcanzado lo que pedia.

Admiramos Narbal é yo la bondad de los dioses, que premiaban nuestra sinceridad, y cuidan tan afectuosamente de aquellos, que todo lo ponen á riesgo por la virtud.

Mirábamos con horror á un Rey dado en presa de la avaricia y del placer deshonesto. Quien así teme ser engañado, decíamos, bien merece serlo; y es casi de ordinario engañado groseramente, y sin que sea menester astucia. El desconfia de los hombres de bien, y hace confianza de los malvados, siendo solo el que ignora lo que sucede. Admirad á Pigmalion: él es juguete de una desenvuelta muger. En tanto se sirven los dioses de la mentira de los malignos para salvar los buenos, que ántes quieren perder la vida, que agraviar la verdad.

En el mismo tiempo observamos que se mudaba el tiempo, y que soplabá el viento favorable á las naves de Chipre, que habian de partir. Los dioses se declaran, gritó Narbal: ellos, mi querido Telémaco, quieren aseguraros. Huid de ésta tierra barbara y maldita. Feliz de quien os pudiera seguir

ever climate — to follow thee, in life and death — would be happiness and honour : but, alas ! Fate has connected me with this wretched country : with my country I am born to suffer ; and, perhaps, in her ruins I shall perish ! But of what moment is this, if my tongue shall be still faithful to truth, and my heart shall hold fast its integrity ? As for thee, my dear Telemachus, may the gods, who guide thee by their wisdom, reward thee to the utmost of their bounty, by giving and continuing to thee that virtue which is pure, generous, and exalted ! Mayest thou survive every danger, return in safety to Ithaca, and deliver Penelope from the presumption of her suitors ! May thy eyes behold, and thy arms embrace, the wise Ulysses thy father ; and may he rejoice in a son that will add new honours to his name ! But, in the midst of the felicity, suffer, at least, the sorrows of friendship, the pleasing anguish of virtue, to steal upon thee for a moment ; and remember unhappy Narbal with a sigh, that shall at once express his misfortunes and thy affection. »

« My heart melted within me as he spoke ; and, when he expected my reply, I threw myself upon his neck, and bedewed it with my tears, but was unable to utter a word : we therefore embraced in silence ; and he then conducted me to the vessel. While we weighed anchor, he stood upon the beach ; and when the vessel was under sail, we mutually looked towards each other, till the objects became confused, and at length totally disappeared. »

END OF THE THIRD BOOK.

hasta las mas desconocidas regiones. Feliz de quien pudiera vivir y morir con vos mismo. Pero un hado severo me tiene enlazado á esta patria : es preciso padecer con ella , y tal vez lo será el quedar sepultado entre sus ruinas : mas no importa , con tal que siempre diga yo la verdad , y ame en mi corazon á la justicia. En quanto á vos , amado Telémaco mio , yo suplico á los dioses , que como de la mano os conducen , que os den la virtud pura , y sin mancha hasta el último plazo de vuestra vida , que es el don mas precioso de quantos pueden dar. Vivid , volved á Itaca , consolad á Penélope , y sacadla á salvo de todos aquellos témerarios amantes que la persiguen : puedan ver vuestros ojos , y estrechar vuestros brazos al sabio Ulises , y halle él en vos un hijo igual á su sabiduría ; pero en vuestra felicidad accordaos del infelicísimo Narbal , y nunca os olvideis del cariño de que me sois deudor.

Acabando estas voces , le bañaba yo con mis lágrimas sin responderle : impedian el uso de la lengua muchos muy profundos suspiros , y abrazábamonos con un silencio , que la expresion mas viva de un amor , y de una pena no es capaz de poder declarar. Condúxome al baxel : paróse en la ribera ; y quando habia ya hecho vela la nave , proseguímes uno y otro en mirarnos , miéntras que nos pudimos alcanzar á ver.

FIN DEL LIBRO TERTIO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK IV.

ARGUMENT.

CALYPSO interrupts Telemachus in his relation, that he may retire to rest. Mentor privately reproves him, for having undertaken the recital of his adventures; but as he has begun, advises him to proceed. Telemachus relates that during his voyage from Tyre to Cyprus, he dreamt that he was protected from Venus and Cupid by Minerva; and that he afterwards imagined he saw Mentor, who exhorted him to fly from the isle of Cyprus; that when he awaked the vessel would have perished in a storm if he had not himself taken the helm, the Cyprians being all intoxicated with wine; that when he arrived at the island, he saw, with horror, the most contagious examples of debauchery; but that Hazeel, the Syrian to whom Mentor had been sold, happening to be at Cyprus at the same time, brought the two friends together, and took them on board his vessel that was bound to Crete; that during the voyage, he had seen Amphitrite drawn in her chariot by sea horses; a sight infinitely entertaining and magnificent.

CALYPSO, who had, till this instant, sat motionless, and listening, with inexpressible delight, to the adventures of Telemachus, now interrupted him, that he might enjoy some respite. « It is time, » said she, « that after so many toils, you should taste the sweets of repose. In this island you have nothing to fear; every thing is here subservient to your wishes; open your heart, therefore, to joy, and make room for all the blessings of peace, which the gods are preparing for you: and to-morrow, when the rosy fingers of Aurora shall unlock the golden doors of the east, and the steeds of Phœbus shall spring up from the deep, diffusing the beams of day, and driving before them the stars of heaven, the history of your misfortunes, my dear Telemachus, shall be resumed. You have exceeded even your father in wisdom and in courage; nor has Achilles, the conqueror of Hec-

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO IV.

SUMARIO.

HABIENDO Calipso tenido sumo gusto de la narracion que le hizo Telémaco de sus sucesos, difiero para el dia siguiente el resto de la historia. Telémaco y Mentor se retiran. Documentos de Mentor á Telémaco en órden á la narracion hecha á Calipso. Prosigue Telémaco en contar sus sucesos. En su viage á la Isla de Chipre se levanta una tempestad. Desenfrenadas costumbres de los Chipriotas. Llega Telémaco á aquella Isla. Descripcion del templo de Venus y de sus sacrificios. Halla á Mentor, que le da noticia de sus aventuras y cautiverio. Azaél, á quien Mentor habia sido vendido, se aficiona á Telémaco: hácele que se embarque en su baxel, y que salga de Chipre.

HABIENDO estado inmóvil Calipso, y transportada con el deleite de oír hasta éste punto á Telémaco el discurso de sus varios sucesos, le quiso interrumpir, para que reposára un poco de su fatiga. Tiempo es, le dixo, de que os retireis á probar el recreo dulce del sueño, despues de tantos trabajos. Aquí no teneis cosa que temer, todo os es favorable: daos, pues, enteramente á la alegría y paz; y disponeos á gozar de todos los demas dones del cielo, de que os veréis colmado dentro de poco tiempo. Quando la roxa aurora se haga mañana ver en el Oriente, y disputando el sol sobre las plateadas espumas del tempestuoso mar, difunda su luz, introduciendo el dia, para ahuyentar del cielo á las estrellas, volverémos; mi querido Telémaco, á la historia de vuestros sucesos. Nunca vuestro padre ha igualado vuestra prudencia, ni vuestro valor: ni Aquiles vencedor de Hector, ni Teséo, que volvió del

tor; nor Theseus, who returned from hell; nor even the great Alcides, who delivered the earth from so many monsters, displayed either fortitude or virtue equal to yours. May one deep and unbroken slumber render the night short to you; though, to me, alas! it will be wearisome and long. With what impatience shall I desire again to see you, to hear your voice; to urge you to repeat what I have been told already; and inquire after what I am still to learn! Go then, my dear Telemachus, with that friend whom the bounty of the gods has again restored; retire into the grotto which has been prepared for your repose. May Morpheus shed his benignest influence upon your eyelids, that are now heavy with watching, and diffuse a pleasing languor through your limbs, that are fatigued by labour! May he cause the most delightful dreams to sport around you; fill your imagination with gay ideas; and keep far from you whatever might chase them away too soon!»

The goddess then conducted Telemachus into the separate grotto, which was not less rural or pleasant than her own. In one part of it, the lulling murmurs of a fountain invited sleep to the weary; and in another, the nymphs had prepared two beds of the softest moss, and covered them with two large skins; one with that of a lion for Telemachus, and the other with that of a bear for Mentor.

They were now alone; but Mentor, before he resigned his eyes to sleep, spoke thus to Telemachus. «The pleasure of relating your adventures has ensnared you; for, by displaying the dangers which you have surmounted by your courage and your ingenuity, you have captivated Calypso; and, in proportion as you have inflamed her passions, you have insured your own captivity. Can it be hoped that she will suffer him to depart who has displayed such power to please? You have been betrayed to indiscretion by your vanity. She promised to relate some stories to you, and to acquaint you with the adventures and the fate of Ulysses, but she has found means to say much without giving you any information, and to draw from you whatever she desired to know. Such are the

Infierno, ni aun el grande Alcides, que limpió de monstruos la tierra, han mostrado tan grande fortaleza, y tanta virtud como vos. Deseo que os abrevie la noche un apacible sueño: mas ¡ay!, que para mí será muy larga! ¡Quán tarde me parecerá el volveros á ver, el oiros, el haceros que repitais lo que ya sé, y el preguntaros lo que aun ignoro! Andad, mi amado Telémaco, junto con el sabio Mentor, que os han restituido los dioses: andad á aquella gruta profunda, donde está prevenido todo lo necesario para que podais descansar. Ruego á los dioses que derrame el sueño sobre vuestros ojos sus mas suaves dulzuras: que haga discurrir por todos vuestros mienbros fatigados un vapor divino; y que alhaguen las fantasías mas deliciosas á vuestros sentidos, desviando léjos de vos todo lo que pudiere desvelaros.

Conduxo la diosa á Telémaco á aquella gruta, que estando separada de la que ella habitaba, no era ménos rústica, ni mas agraciada. Convidaba al sueño una fuente, que á uno de sus lados corria con un dulce murmullo. Allí habian dispuesto las Ninfas dos lechos de mullida verdura, y habian extendido sobre ellos dos crecidas pieles, la una de Leon para Telémaco, y la otra de Oso para Mentor.

Antes de cerrar los ojos con el sueño, Mentor habló á Telémaco de esta manera: El deleite de relatar la historia de vuestros sucesos os ha hecho decir harto mas de lo que se debía. Habeis dado á la diosa sobrado gusto, contándole los riesgos de que vuestro corage, y vuestra industria os han sacado á salvo. No habeis hecho otra cosa con eso que encender mas la llama de su corazon, y disponer os otra mas arriesgada esclavitud. ¿Cómo esperais que ahora ella os permita salir fuera de ésta Isla, despues que por decirlo así, la habeis encantado con vuestra narracion? El deseo de gloria vana os ha hecho hablar sin prudencia. ¿Quándo seréis, Telémaco, harto sabio para jamas hablar por vanidad, y para saber callar todo lo que puede aumentar vuestra reputacion, como no aproveche el decirlo? Admiran

arts of the flatterer and the wanton ! When , O Telemachus ! will you be wise enough to resist the impulse of vanity , and know how to suppress incidents that do you honour , when it is not fit that they should be related ? Others , indeed , admire the wisdom which you possess at an age in which they think folly might be forgiven ; but I can forgive you nothing ; your heart is known only to me , and there is no other who loves you well enough to tell you your faults. How much does your father still surpass you in wisdom ! »

« Could I then , » answered Telemachus , « have refused an account of my misfortunes to Calypso ? »
« No , » replied Mentor ; « but you should have gratified her curiosity only by reciting such circumstances as might have raised her compassion : you might have told her that , after having long wandered from place to place , you were first a captive in Sicily , and then a slave in Egypt. This would have been enough ; and all that was more , served only to render that poison more active which now rages at her heart ; a poison from which pray the gods that thy heart may be defended. »

« But what can now be done , » said Telemachus.
— « Now , » replied Mentor , « the sequel of your story cannot be suppressed : Calypso knows too much to be deceived in that which she has yet to learn ; and to attempt it would be only to displease her. Proceed , therefore , to-morrow in your account of all that the gods have done for you ; and speak another time with more modesty of such actions of your own as may be thought to merit praise.

This salutary advice was received by Telemachus with the same friendship with which it was given by Mentor ; and they immediately lay down to rest.

As soon as the first rays of Phœbus glanced upon the mountains , Mentor heard the voice of Calypso calling to her nymphs in the neighbouring wood , and awakened Telemachus. « It is time , » said he , « to repress the encroachment of sleep : let us now return to Calypso , but put no confidence in her words : shut your heart against her , and dread the delicious poison

otros vuestra prudencia en una edad , en que merece perdon no tenerla ; quanto á mí , no os puedo perdonar cosa ninguna , y soy solo quien os conoce y os ama , ¡ cuánto es menester para advertiros de todos los errores que cometeis . ¡ O cuán léjos estais aun de la prudencia de vuestro padre !

Por ventura podia yo , le preguntó Telémaco , excusarme de contar á Calipso mis infortunios ? No , respondió Mentor : preciso era contarlos ; mas podiais hacerlo , sin contarle otra cosa , que lo que pudiera mover á compasion . Le podiais decir como habias vagado , ahora cautivo en Sicilia , y despues en Egipto . Bastaba decirle esto : lo demas no ha hecho otra cosa que aumentar el veneno , que atosiga su corazon : quieran los dioses , que no pase despues á inficionar el vuestro .

¿ Qué haré , pues ? prosiguió Telémaco , con un tono de voz modesto y dócil . No es tiempo ya ; le respondió Mentor , de ocultarle lo que aun falta de vuestra historia : sabe quanto le basta para no poder ser engañada respecto á lo que ignora todavía . No serviria de otra cosa vuestra circunspeccion , que de mover su enojo . Acabad , pues , mañana de contarle todas las gracias , que os han hecho los dioses , y aprended á hablar otra vez mas templadamente de aquello que os pueda producir alabanza .

Recibió amigablemente Telémaco un tan buen consejo , y ambos se dispusieron para dormir .

Luego que esparció el sol sobre la tierra el oro esplendoroso de sus rayos , oyendo la voz de la diosa , que llamaba en el bosque á todas las Ninfas , Mentor llamó á Telémaco . Ya es tiempo , dixo , de despertar . Vamos , y volved á Calipso ; pero desconfiad de sus dulces palabras : nunca le descubrais vuestro corazon , y temed el veneno allagueño de sus alabanzas . Ayer

of her praise. Yesterday, she exalted you above the wise Ulysses your father, and the invincible Achilles: above Theseus, who filled the earth with his fame, and Hercules, who obtained a place in the skies; did you perceive the excess of such adulation, or did you believe her praises to be just? Calypso herself laughed in secret at so romantic a falsehood, which she uttered, only because she believed you to be so vain, as to be gratified by the grossest flattery, and so weak as to be imposed upon by the most extravagant improbability. »

They now approached the place where they were expected by the goddess. The moment she perceived them, she forced a smile; and attempted to conceal, under the appearance of joy, the dread and anxiety which agitated her bosom; for she foresaw, that, under the direction of Mentor, Telemachus, like Ulysses, would elude her snares: « Come, » said she, « my dear Telemachus, and relieve me from the impatience of curiosity: I have dreamt all the night of your departure from Phœnicia to seek new adventures in the isle of Cyprus: let us not, therefore, lose another moment; make haste to satisfy me with knowledge, and put an end to the illusions of conjecture. » They then sat down upon the grass, that was intermingled with violets; and a lofty grove spread its shadow over them.

Calypso could not refrain from looking frequently, with the most passionate tenderness, at Telemachus; nor perceive, without indignation, that every glance of her eye was remarked by Mentor. All her nymphs silently ranged themselves in a semicircle, and leaned forward with the utmost eagerness of attention: the eyes of the whole assembly were immoveably fixed upon Telemachus: who looking downward, and blushing with the most graceful modesty, thus continued his narrative.

« Our sails had not been long filled with the gentle breath of a favouring wind, before the level coast of Phœnicia disappeared. As I was now associated with Cyprians, of whose manners I was totally ignorant,

os elevaba mas alto que vuestro padre Ulises , que el invencible Aquiles , que el famoso Teséo , y aun que el mismo Alcides , que ya tiene el aplauso de inmortal. No advertisteis quán excesiva era esta alabanza ? ¿ Os persuadís vos todo eso que decia Calipso ? Sabed , que ni ella misma lo cree , ni os alaba , sino porque os juzga tan débil y tan vano , que tal vez os podria engañar con desproporcionados elogios de vuestras acciones.

Despues de éstas razones , se fuéron al lugar en que los esperaba la diosa. Sonrióse ella al verlos , y encubrió con un velo de aparente alegría el temor , é inquietud que alteraban su corazon : porque pronosticaba , que escoltado Telémaco de Mentor , se le escaparía , como lo habia tambien hecho Ulises. No dilateis , amado Telémaco mio , le dixo , el satisfacer mi curiosidad. Se me figuraba toda ésta noche , que os veia partir de Fenicia , y buscar en la Isla de Chipre una nueva fortuna. Decidme pues , quál fué vuestro viage , y no perdaís momento. Entónces se sentáron sobre la yerba , esmaltada de muchas violetas , á la sombra de un bosque muy frondoso.

Calipso no podia contenerse de echar de quando en quando á Telémaco algunas ojeadas , índices de su ternura y de su pasion ; como ni de mirar con ceño á Mentor , que observaba con atencion todos los movimientos de sus ojos , hasta los mas pequeños. Callaban entre tanto las Ninfas , é inclinábanse , para prestar oido con atencion , formando un medio circulo , para ver , y escuchar mejor. Estaban puestos fijos los ojos del concurso todos en el jóven Telémaco ; y baxando los suyos , y coloréandose muy graciosamente , volvió de esta manera á tomar el hilo de su interrumpido discurso.

Apenas llenó nuestras velas el soplo dulce del favorable viento , se desapareció de la vista la tierra de Fenicia , de que nos ausentamos. Hallandome con las gentes de Chipre , de quien no conocia las costum-

I determined to remain silent, that I might the better remark all that passed, and recommend myself to my companions by the most scrupulous decorum. But, during my silence, a deep sleep stole insensibly upon me, the exercise of all my faculties was suspended, I sunk into the most luxurious tranquillity, and my heart overflowed with delight.

On a sudden I thought the clouds parted, and that I saw Venus in her chariot drawn by two doves; she appeared in all that radiance of beauty, that gaiety of youth, that smiling softness, and irresistible gr^âce, which the thunderer himself could scarce steadfastly behold, when first she issued from the foam of the sea: I thought she descended with astonishing rapidity, and in a moment reached the spot on which I stood: that she then, with a smile, laid her hand upon my shoulder, and pronounced these words. « Young Greek, thou art now about to enter into my dominions; thou shalt shortly arrive at that fortunate island, where every pleasure springs up under my steps; there thou shalt burn incense upon my altars, and I will lavish upon thee inexhaustible delight; let thy heart therefore indulge the utmost luxuriancy of hope; and reject not the happiness which the most powerful of all the deities is now willing to bestow. »

« At the same time, I perceived the boy Cupid, fluttering, on his little wings, round his mother: the lovely softness and laughing simplicity of childhood appeared in his countenance; but in his eyes, which sparkled with a piercing brightness, there was something that I could not behold without fear. He looked at me, indeed, with a smile; but it was the malignant smile of derision and cruelty; he selected from his golden quiver the keenest of all his arrows, and having bent his bow, the shaft was just parting from the string, when Minerva suddenly appeared, and lifted her immortal *ægis* before me. In her aspect there was not that exquisite softness, that amorous languor, which I had remarked in the countenance and attitude of Venus: the beauty of Minerva was simple, chaste, and unaffected; all was easy and

bres, determiné callar, y observarlo todo, guardando puntualmente todas las reglas de la discrecion para ganar su aprecio. Pero en medio de mi silencio se me apoderó un dulce y profundo sueño. Hallabanse suspensos y embargados mis sentidos, y gozaba de una alegría y una paz tranquila, en que estaba anegado mi corazon.

De improviso me pareció que veía á Venus, que surcaba las nubes con su ligero carro, conducido de bellisimas palomas. Tenia ella aquella brillante hermosura, aquella juventud viva, aquella gracia tierna que se viéron en ella, quando brotando de las espumas, deslumbró los ojos hasta al mismo Júpiter. Baxó en un vuelo rápido hasta cerca de mí: púsome sonriéndose la mano sobre el hombro; y llamándome por mi nombre, me dixo estas palabras: Tú, jóven Griego, estás para entrar en mi reyno, y llegarás bien presto á aquella isla dichosa, donde nacen los gustos, los juegos, y la risa festiva sobre mis huellas. Allí tú quemarás incienso sobre mis aras, y será de mí sumergido en un crecido rio de delicias. Abre tu corazon á las esperanzas mas dulces, y mira bien no te opongas á la mas poderosa de todas las deidades, que intenta hacerte feliz.

Observé al mismo tiempo á Cupídillo, que batiendo sus alas pequeñuelas, daba gyros en al rededor de la madre: bien que llevaba en su rostro la mas delicada belleza; y lo apacible de la juventud descubria en sus ojos perspicaces un no sé qué, que me causaba miedo. Sacó de su aljaba de oro la mas aguda de sus saetas; tendió el arco, y ya estaba para traspasarme, quando de repente apareció Minerva, y me abrigó con su escudo. No tenia el semblante de esta diosa aquella afeminada belleza, y aquel amoroso desmayo, que habia yo advertido en el rostro, y disposioion de Venus. Por el contrario, era esta una belleza sencilla, despreciada, y modesta: todo en ella era grave, vigoroso, noble, y lleno de brio y de magestad. No pudiendo las flechas de Cupido penetrar el escudo, se cayeron en tierra: él enojado suspiró amargamente,

natural, yet spirited, striking, and majestic. The shaft of Cupid, not having sufficient force to penetrate the shield that intercepted it, fell to the ground; and the god, touched at once with shame and indignation, withdrew his bow, and betrayed his disappointment with a sigh. Away! presumptuous boy," said Minerva; "thou hast power only over the base, who prefer the sordid pleasures of sensuality to the sublime enjoyments of wisdom, virtue, and honour."

Love, blushing with restrained anger, flew away without reply; and Venus again ascending to Olympus, I long traced her chariot and her doves in a cloud of intermingled azure and gold; but at length they were not to be distinguished, and when I turned my eyes downwards, I perceived that Minerva also had disappeared.

"I then fancied myself transported to a delightful garden, which revived in my mind the descriptions that I had heard of Elysium. Here I met with Mentor, who accosted me in these words: "Fly from this fatal country, this island of contagion, where every breeze is tainted with sensuality, where the most heroic virtue has cause for fear, and safety can be obtained only by flight!" The moment I saw Mentor, I attempted to throw my arms about him in an ecstasy of joy; but I strove in vain to lift my feet from the ground, my knees failed under me, and my arms closed over an empty shade, which eluded their graps. The effort awaked me; and I perceived, that this mysterious dream was a divine admonition. A more animated resolution against pleasure, and greater diffidence of my own virtue, concurred to make me detest the effeminate and voluptuous manners of the Cyprians: but I was most affected by the apprehension that Mentor was dead; and that having passed the irremeable waters of the Stix, he was fixed for ever in the blissful dwellings of the just.

"I mused upon this imaginary loss, till I burst into tears, and being observed by the mariners, they asked me why I wept: I replied, that it might easily be guessed, why an unhappy fugitive, who despaired of returning to his country, should weep. In the

y se avergonzó de quedar vencido. Apartaos, de aquí, le gritó Minerva, apartaos de aquí, temerario niño, que nunca venceréis sino á las almas viles, que anteponen á la sabiduría, á la virtud y gloria los vergonzosos placeres.

A estas voces Cupido ayrado desapareció volando; y mientras Venus se volvía á cubrir al cielo, vi gran rato su carro, junto con sus palomas, en una nube de oro y azul; y finalmente se me desapareció de los ojos. Al volverlos yo á tierra, no vi mas á Minerva, bien que registré todo lo que alcanzaba en mi contorno.

Parecióme que entonces me habia trasladado á un deliciosísimo jardin tan puntualmente como pintar los campos Elisios. Aquí reconocí á Mentor, que me dixo: Huid de esta tierra cruel, de esta Isla emponzoñada, en que no se respira sino placeres. La virtud mas valiente debe en ella temblar, y no puede salvarse sino en la fuga. Al punto que le vi, me quise arrojar á su cuello para abrazarlo; mas conocia que estaban inmóviles mis pies: que me flaqueaban las piernas; y que esforzándome á estrechar con mis brazos á Mentor, iba en busca de una vana sombra, que no se me dexaba coger. Con tal esfuerzo me desvelé, y noté, que era aquel sueño un advertencia divina. Sentime lleno de nuevo aliento contra los gustos, y de desconfianza de mí propio, para tener en ménos la vida afeminada de los Chipriotas. Pero lo que me atravesó el corazon, fué creer que Mentor habia ya acabado con la vida, y habia ya pasado á habitar en aquella afortunada region, donde son moradoras siempre las almas justas.

Este pensamiento me hizo derramar un arroyo de lágrimas, y al instante me preguntaron la razon de mi llanto. Las lágrimas, respondí, convienen demasiado á un desventurado extranjero, que no tiene esperanza de volver á su patria. En tanto todos los Chipriotas

mean time, however, all the Cyprians that were on board, gave themselves up to the most extravagant merriment: the rowers, indeed, to whom a mere suspension of labour was luxury, fell asleep upon their oars; but the pilot, who had quitted the helm, and crowned himself with flowers, held in his hand an enormous bowl, which he had almost emptied of wine; and with the rest of the crew, who were equally intoxicated, roared out such songs to the praise of Venus and Cupid, as no man who has a reverence for virtue, can hear without horror.

« While they were thus thoughtless of danger, a sudden tempest began to trouble the ocean and obscure the sky. The winds, as in the wild ardour of unexpected freedom, were heard bellowing among the sails; and the waves dashed against the sides of the vessel, which groaned under the strokes: we now floated on the ridge of a stupendous mountain, which the next moment seemed to glide from under us, and leave us buried in the abyss; we perceived also some rocks near us, and heard the billows break against them with a dreadful noise. I had often heard Mentor say, that the effeminate and voluptuous are never brave; and I now found, by experience, that it was true; for the Cyprians, whose jollity had been so extravagant and tumultuous, now sunk under a sense of their danger, and wept like women. I heard nothing but the screams of terror, and the wailings of hopeless distress: some lamented the loss of pleasures that were never to return, and some made idle vows of sacrifice to the gods, if they reached their port in safety; but none had presence of mind, either to undertake or direct the navigation of the vessel. In this situation I thought it my duty to save the lives of my associates, by saving my own: I, therefore, took the helm into my own hand, the pilot being so intoxicated as to be wholly insensible of the danger of the vessel; I encouraged the affrighted mariners, and I ordered the sails to be taken in; the men rowed vigorously, and we soon found ourselves clear of the rocks, among which we had beheld all the horrors of death at so near a view.

de aquel baxel se entregaban á una necia alegría : los remeros , enemigos de la fatiga , se dormían sobre los remos : coronado de flores el piloto , dexaba de la mano el timon , y tenia en ella un gran vaso de vino , que habia ya casi agotado. El , y todos los otros , turbados del furor de la embriaguez , cantaban en honra de Venus y de Cupido ciertos versos , que á todos los amantes de la virtud deberian dar horror , y mover á abominacion.

Miéntas que de esta suerte se olvidaban de los peligros del mar , una tempestad repentina perturbó al mismo tiempo no ménos el cielo , que el piélago. Descadenados los vientos de las prisiones de Eolo , bramaban con furor contra nuestras velas , y las horribles ondas combatian la nave por los costados , y ella gemia herida de los golpes. Ya subiamos sobre la espesa espuma de las hinchadas ondas , y ya parecia que el mar corria fugitivo del baxel , para dexarle hundir en el abysmo ; y veíamos algunos escollos vecinos , en quien se estrellaban las altiveces de su furor con espantoso estruendo. Entónces entendí por experiencia lo que habia oido á Mentor , que á los hombres afeminados , y entregados á los placeres les falta el ánimo en medio de los riesgos. Lloraban todos aquellos Chipriotas espantados como mugeres. No se oía otra cosa que espantosos gritos , y lamentos , por haber de perder los gustos de esta vida , y ofrecimientos vanos á los dioses de hacerles sacrificios , si podian llegar al puerto. No habia quien entre ellos mantuviera agilidad de espíritu , bastante para ordenar cómo habian de manejarse los cables , ni para executar las ordenes. Me parecia debia , procurando salvar mi vida , salvar igualmente las de los otros. Puse mano al timon , porque el piloto , semejante á un sacerdote de los de Baco , no estaba en disposicion de conocer el riesgo del baxel : di aliento á los marineros espantados : hice amaynar las velas , y ellos al mismo tiempo remaron con vigor. Cruzamos por algunos escollos : vimos de cerca todos los tremendos horrores de la muerte , y llegamos á Chipre finalmente.

« This event had the appearance of a dream to the mariners, who were indebted to me for their lives ; and they looked upon me with astonishment. We arrived at the isle of Cyprus in that month of the spring which is consecrated to Venus ; a season, which the Cyprians believe to be under the influence of this goddess, because all nature then appears to be animated with new vigour, and pleasure seems to spring up spontaneously with the flowers of the field.

« As soon as I went on shore, I perceived a certain softness in the air, which, though it rendered the body indolent and inactive, yet brought on a disposition to gaiety and wantonness ; and indeed, the inhabitants were so averse to labour, that the country, though extremely fertile and pleasant, was almost wholly uncultivated. I met, in every street, crowds of women, loosely dressed, singing the praises of Venus, and going to dedicate themselves to the service of her temple. Beauty and pleasure sparkled in their countenances, but their beauty was tainted by affectation ; and the modest simplicity, from which female charms principally derive their power, was wanting : the dissolute air, the studied look, the flaunting dress, and the lascivious gait, the expressive glances that seemed to wander in search after those of the men, the visible emulation who should kindle the most ardent passion, and whatever else I discovered in these women, moved only my contempt and aversion ; and I was disgusted by all that they did with a desire to please.

« I was conducted to a temple of the goddess, of which there are several in the island ; for she is worshipped at Cythera, Idalia, and Paphos. That which I visited was at Cythera ; the structure, which is of marble, is a complete peristyle ; and the columns are so large and lofty, that its appearance is extremely majestic : on each front, over the architrave and frieze, are large pediments, on which the most entertaining adventures of the goddess are represented in bass-relief. There is a perpetual crowd of people with offerings at the gate.

Pareció este suceso como un sueño á quantos me debian el conservar su vida , y mirábanme con asombro. Llegamos á la isla de Chipre en abril , mes consagrado á Venus. Tal-tiempo , decian los Isleños , le conviene á la diosa porque parece que ella da vigor á la naturaleza , y produce los gustos del mismo modo que nacen las flores.

Luego que llegué á la isla , sentí un ayre suave , que enflaquecia , y emperezaba el cuerpo ; pero que al mismo tiempo infundia un genio alegre , y festivo. Noté que la campaña , naturalmente fértil y hermosa , estaba casi toda sin cultivo : tanto los moradores huian del trabajo. Advertí en todas partes mugeres y doncellas vanamente adornadas , que cantando los loores de Venus , iban á dedicársele en su templo. La belleza , la gracia , la alegría , y el placer igualmente brillaban en sus rostros ; pero todo era muy afectado : ni se veia la noble sencillez y apreciable vergüenza , que es lo que mas agrada en la hermosura. El ayre blando de sus semblantes , el artificio de sus afeytes , los profanos adornos , su desmayado andar , su mirar , que parece que buscaba quien las mirase ; sus reciprocos zelos , para encender alguna pasion grande en otros corazones : y por concluir , quanto veia en ellas me parecia vil y despreciable ; y procurándome á toda fuerza agradar , me causaba enfado.

Conduxéronme al templo de Venus. Tiene muchos la diosa en aquella isla ; pero singularmente es adorada en Pafos , en Idalia , y Cytera. A este postrero fui conducido yo. Todo el templo es de marmol , y edificio perfecto. Son las columnas de tal corpulencia y altura , que le hacen magestuosísimo. Sobre el arquitrave y el friso á cada parte hay algunos grandes frontispicios , en que se ven de escorzo los sucesos mas divertidos de la deidad. A la puerta del templo está continuamente un gran tropel de gente , que vienen á hacer sus ofrendas.

« But within the limits of the consecrated ground , no victim is ever slain ; the fat of bulls and heifers is never burnt , as at other temples ; nor are the rites of pleasure profaned with their blood : the beasts that are here offered , are only presented before the altar , nor are any accepted , but those that are young , white , and without blemish : they are dressed with purple fillets , embroidered with gold , and their horns are decorated with gilding and flowers ; after they have been presented , they are led to a proper place at a considerable distance , and killed for the banquet of the priests.

« Perfumed liquors are also offered , and wines of the richest flavour. The habit of the priests is a long white robe , fringed with gold at the bottom , and bound round them with a golden girdle ; the richest aromatics of the east burn night and day upon the altars , and the smoke rises in a cloud of fragrance to the skies. All the columns of the temple are adorned with festoons ; all the sacrificial vessels are of gold ; and the whole building is surrounded by a consecrated grove of odoriferous myrtle. None are permitted to present the victims to the priest , or to kindle the hallowed fire , but boys and girls of consummate beauty. But this temple , however magnificent , was rendered infamous by the dissolute manners of the votaries.

« What I saw in this place struck me at first with horror ; but a length , by insensible degrees , it became familiar. I was no longer alarmed at the appearance of vice ; the manners of the company had a kind of contagious influence upon me ; my innocence was universally derided : and my modesty and reserve became the sport of impudence and buffoonery ; every art was practised to excite my passions , to ensnare me by temptation , and to kindle the love of pleasure in my breast. I perceived that I was , every day , less capable of resistance ; the influence of education was surmounted ; my virtuous resolutions melted away ; I could no longer struggle against the evils that pressed upon me on every side ; and from dreading

Ninguna victima se degüella jamas en el recinto del lugar sagrado : no se quema en él como en otros la grosura de las terneras , y de los toros ; ni nunca se derrama su sangre , sino que solamente se presentan delante del altar los animales que se le ofrecen : y no puede ofrecerse alguno que no sea jóven , blanco , sin defecto y sin mancha. Cúbrenles á los brutos del sacrificio de pequeñas bandas de púrpura , bordada de oro , adornan sus hastas con ramos de olorosas flores ; y habiéndose ofrecido delante del altar , se envian á un lugar apartado , en donde los degüellan , para servir en los convites de los sacerdotes .

Aquí tambien se ofrece toda especie de licores aromáticos , y tambien el vino mas suave que el nectar. Los sacerdotes visten ropages largos , de color blanco ; con cingulos de oro , y franyas de lo mismo en las extremidades. Quémanse en los altares dia , y noche los mas exquisitos aromas del Oriente , que forman una especie de nube , que se eleva hasta el cielo. Todas las columnas de marmol están adornadas de festones , que estan de ellas pendientes : todos los vasos , que sirven para los sacrificios , son de oro puro : rodea el edificio un bosque de arrayanes consagrado á la diosa : no hay en él sino algunos jovencitos , y doncellas de exquisita belleza , que puedan presentar á los sacerdotes las victimas , y se atrevan á encender el fuego de los altares. Pero desacreditan tan suntuoso templo la sobrada licencia , y desenvoltura.

Causaronme horror al principio las cosas que miraba : pero insensiblemente empezaba á acostumbrarme. Ya el mismo vicio no me causaba temor alguno , y aquellas compañías me inspiraban una no sé qué inclinacion al desenfreno. Burlaban mi inocencia , mi modestia y empacho , que servian de ultrage á aquel pueblo sin pundonor. No se omitia cosa para excitar todas mis pasiones , para ponerme asechanzas , y avivar el deseo de los placeres en mi corazon. Cada dia me sentia mas flaco : casi no me servia ya de provecho la buena educacion con que me crié , y mis buenas resoluciones se desvanecian. No me conocia en estado de resistir al mal que me apremiaba por todos lados , y tenia una infame vergüenza de la virtud. Estaba como

ding vice, I came at length to be ashamed of virtue. I was like a man who attempts to swim a deep and rapid river; his first efforts are vigorous, and he makes way against the stream; but, if the shores are steep, and he cannot rest himself upon the bank, he grows weary by degrees; his strength is exhausted; his limbs become stiff with fatigue; and he is carried away by the torrent.

« Thus my eyes began to grow dim to the deformity of vice, and my heart shrunk from the toil of virtue; I could no longer call in the power of reason to my assistance, nor remember the example of my father with emulation; the dream, in which I had seen Mentor in the fields of Elysium, repressed the last feeble effort of my virtue, by cutting off all hopes of support, a pleasing languor stole insensibly upon me; and I felt, what I knew to be, poison glide from vein to vein, and diffuse itself through every limb with a secret satisfaction; yet, by sudden starts, I deplored my captivity with sighs and tears; sometimes I pined with regret, and sometimes I raved with indignation. « How wretched a period of life, » said I! « is youth! Wherefore did the gods, who cruelly sport with the calamities of men, ordain them to pass through that state which is divided between the sports of folly and the agonies of desire? Why is not my head already hoary, and why do not my steps falter on the brink of the grave? Why am I not already like Laertes, whose son is my father? Death itself would be more eligible than the shameful weakness to which I am now conscious!

« But these exclamations had no sooner burst from me, than my anguish would abate; and my conscience, lulled again by the opiates of sensuality, would again cease to be susceptible of shame; till some sudden thought would rouse me once more to sensibility, and sting me with yet keener remorse. In this state of perplexity and anguish I frequently wandered about in the consecrated grove; like a hart that had been wounded by the hunters; the speed of the hart reaches the distant forest in a moment, but he car-

un hombre, que nada en un profundo, y arrebatado río: él al principio rompe las aguas, y sube contra el impetu de la corriente; pero si ve las márgenes muy distantes, y no puede descansar sobre la rivera, finalmente poco á poco se cansa, se le acaba la fuerza, se le pasman los miembros debilitados, y lo arrastra tras sí violentamente el raudal.

De esta forma puntualmente los ojos se me empezaban á obscurecer, se me enflaquecia el corazón, y no podia recobrar la razón extraviada, ni traer á la memoria los trabajos que estaba padeciendo mi padre. Acababame de desalentar el sueño, en que me parecía haber visto al sabio Mentor en los Elisios. Apoderábase de mí mismo un secreto y dulce desmayo, y amaba ya aquel lisongero veneno, que andaba discurriendo en mis venas, y penetraba hasta las medulas de mis huesos. Sin embargo, todavia gemia profundamente, derramando amarguísimas lagrimas, y en mi furor rugia como un leon. ¡O infeliz juventud, decía yo! ¡O dioses, qué cruelmente os burlais de los hombres! ¿Por qué hacerlos pasar por esta edad, que es tiempo de locura, ó abrasada fiebre? ¿Por qué no seré yo como Laerte, mi avuelo, cubierto ya de canas, encorvado, y vecino á la sepultura? Mas estimaria la muerte, que no la flaqueza afrentosa en que me veo.

Apenas habia así hablado, se disminuía mi pena; y embriagado mi corazón de una pasión estólida, arrojaba de sí casi toda la vergüenza. Despues me veia anegado en un cruel abismo de remordimientos. En esta turbacion corria acá, y alla por la sagrada selva, semejante á una cierva, que habiendo sido herida del cazador, vá corriendo al través de los dilatados bosques, para mitigar su dolor; mas llevando consigo aquel dardo mortal con que la atravesáron. Así igualmente, yo en vano iba corriendo por perder la me-

ries the tormenting shaft in his side : thus I vainly attempted to escape from myself ; for the anguish of my breast could not be alleviated by changing place.

« I was one day in this situation , when , at some distance before me , in the most gloomy part of the grove , I thought I discovered Mentor ; but upon a nearer approach , his countenance appeared so pale , and expressed such a mixture of grief and austerity , that I felt no joy in his presence. « Can it be thou , » said I , « my dearest friend , my only hope ! Can it be thou , thyself in very deed ; or do I thus gaze upon a fleeting illusion ? Is it Mentor ? or is it the spirit of Mentor , that is still touched with my misfortunes ? Art not thou numbered among the happy spirits , who rejoice in the fruition of their own virtue ; to which the gods have superadded the pure and everlasting pleasures of Elysium ? Speak , Mentor , dost thou yet live ? Am I again happy in thy counsel , or art thou only the manes of my friend. » As I pronounced these words , I ran towards him breathless and transported : he calmly waited for me , without advancing a single step ; but the gods only know with what joy I perceived that he filled my grasp. « No , it is not an empty shade ; I hold him fast ; I embrace my dear Mentor ! » Thus I expressed the tumult of my mind in broken exclamations ; till bursting into tears , I hung upon his neck without power to speak. He continued to look stedfastly at me with a mixture of grief , tenderness , and compassion.

At last I found words. « Alas ! » said I , « whence art thou come ? What dangers have surrounded me in thy absence ! and what should I now have done without thee ? » Mentor not regarding my questions , cried out , in a voice that shook me with terror , « Fly ! delay not a moment to fly. The very fruits of this soil are poison ; the air is pestilential ; the inhabitants themselves are contagious , and speak only to infuse the most deadly venom. Sordid and infamous sensuality , the most dreadful evil that issued from the box of Pandora , corrupts every heart , and eradicates every virtue. Fly ! wherefore dost thou linger ? Fly !

moría de mí propio, porque ninguna cosa podía aliviarme la herida que llevaba dentro de mi pecho.

En aquel mismo punto ví hartò léjos de mí, baxo la obscura sombra del bosque, la figura del sabio Mentor; mas su rostro me pareció tan pálido, tan melancólico, y tan austero, que no pude tener gozo ninguno. ¿Sois vos, dixe, querido amigo mio, sola esperanza mia? ¿Sois vos? ó es esta alguna vana ilusión, que viene á burlar mis sentidos? ¿Sois vos Mentor? ¿Es este vuestro espíritu, que tiene aun alguna compasion de mis males? ¿No sois ya de aquellas almas dichosas, que gozan de su virtud, y de aquellos puros placeres, que los dioses les dan en los felices campos? ¿Mentor vivís aun? ¿No soy hartò dichoso para lograros, ó no es esta más que una apariencia de mi amantísimo amigo? Diciendo estas palabras, corría ácia él fuera de mí con tal ímpetu, que casi me faltaba el aliento. El, sin dar paso alguno ácia mí, me aguardaba tranquilamente. ¡Vos, ó dioses, sabeis cuál fué mi gozo, quando le tocáron mis brazos! No, no es esta, grité, una sombra vana; yo os estrecho, yo os abrazo, amado Mentor mio. Hablando así, le bafiaba el rostro con un torrente de lágrimas, y estábame asido á él, sin poder decir otra cosa. Mirábame Mentor con un ayre melancólico, y con los ojos llenos de una compasiva ternura. Finalmente le dixe así.

¡Ay de mí! ¿de qué lugar venís? ¿En qué riesgos me habeis dexado, durante vuestra ausencia! ¿Y qué haría ahora sin vos? Pero sin responder á mis preguntas: Huid, me dixo, con un tono de voz terrible: huid, daos priesa á huir. Aquí la tierra no produce otro fruto que tósigo: está apestado el ayre que se respira: los hombres contagiosos no hablan juntos sino para comunicarse el mortal veneno; y el placer vil, é infame, el qual entre los males que han venido á ocupar el mundo, es el mas horrible, afemina todos los corazones, y no dexa crecer aquí virtud alguna. Huid: no os detengáis: no os volváis á mirar á trás:

cast not one look behind thee; nor let even thy thought return to this accursed island for a moment ».

« While he yet spoke, I perceived, as it were, a thick cloud vanish from before me, and my eyes were once more illuminated with the rays of unbroken light. My heart was elated with a peaceful yet vigorous joy, very different from the dissolute and tumultuous pleasures of desire : one is the joy of phrensy and confusion, a perpetual transition from outrageous passion to the keenest remorse ; the other is the calm and equal felicity of reason, which participates of divine beatitude, and can neither satiate nor be exhausted ; it filled all my breast, and overflowed in tears ; nor is there on earth any higher enjoyment than thus to weep. « Happy, » said I, « are those, by whom virtue vouchsafes to be seen in all her beauty ! thus to behold her, is to love her ; and to love her is to be happy ».

« But my attention was recalled to Mentor : « I must leave you, » said he ; « nor can my stay be protracted a moment. » « Whither dost thou go, then ? » said I. « To what deserts will I not follow thee ! think not to depart without me, for I will rather die at thy feet ! » Immediately I caught hold of him, and held him with all my force. « It is in vain, » said he, « that thy zeal attempts to detain me : I was sold by Metopis to the Arabs or Ethiopians, who, being on a trading journey to Damascus in Syria, determined to part with me, imagining that they could sell me for a large sum to one Hazael, a man who was seeking after a Grecian slave, to acquaint him with the manners of the country, and instruct him in the sciences : nor were they mistaken ; for I was purchased by Hazael at a very high price. The knowledge which he soon acquired of the Grecian policy, inclined him to go into Crete, to study the laws of Minos ; the voyage was immediately undertaken : but we were driven, by contrary winds, to Cyprus ; and he has taken this opportunity to make his offering at the temple. I see him now coming out ; a favourable wind

y desechad despues de vuestra memoria esta isla destestable.

Dixo. Y luego sentí yo como una densa nube, que se disipaba delante de mis ojos, y me dexaba ver la pura luz; dentro de mi pecho renacia una suave alegría, llena de valiente denuedo. Era harto diferente esta alegría de aquella blanda, y lasciva, que habia envenenado mis sentidos. La una es alegría de embriaguez, y perturbacion interrumpida de pasiones furiosas, y remordimientos inquietos: la otra es la alegría de la razon, que tiene algo de bienaventurada, y de celestial. Esta es siempre pura, é igual, y nada la puede agotar: quanto mas el hombre se entrega á ella, tanto la halla mas dulce, y ella arrebatá la alma sin turbacion. Derramé entónces muchas lágrimas de consuelo, y conocí que no habia cosa allí mas amable que el llanto. Dichosos, decia yo, aquellos hombres, á quienes la virtud se dá á ver con toda su belleza. ¿Puede ser así vista sin ser amada? ¿Puédese amar, sin que haga al mismo tiempo feliz al que es su amante?

Es preciso, dixo Mentor, que os dexé: ahora mismo me parto, no me es permitido detenerme mas. ¿Adónde vais? le pregunté yo. ¿Y qual será la tierra inhabitable, adonde no esté yo pronto para seguiros? No creais que podréis ausentaros de mí: moriré antes, siguiendo vuestras pisadas. Diciendo estas palabras, le apretaba yo estrechamente entre mis brazos. En vano, me replicó, esperais detenerme. El cruel Metofi me vendió á los Etiopes; y habiendo éstos pasado á Damasco de Syria por negocios de su comercio, quisiéron desprenderse de mí, y esperando sacar una gran suma, me vendiéron á un cierto llamado Azaél, que buscaba un esclavo Griego, para informase de las costumbres de Grecia, é instruirse tambien en nuestras ciencias. En efecto, Azaél me compró á caro precio. Lo que ha oido de mí, respecto de nuestras costumbres, ha despertado en él el deseo de pasar á la Isla de Creta, para instruirse de las prudentes leyes del Rey Minos. Los vientos nos han obligado en nuestra derrota á detenernos aquí, para aguardar que corran favorables: ha venido á hacer en el templo sus sacrificios, y helo ahí, que ya sale. Los vientos nos con-

already fills our sails, and calls us on board. Farewell, my dear Telemachus ! a slave, who fears the gods, cannot dispense with his obligation to attend his master ; the gods have made me the property of another ; and they know, that if I had any right in myself, I would transfer it to you. Farewell ! remember the achievements of Ulysses, and the tears of Penelope ; remember also, that the gods are just. Ye powers, who are the protectors of the innocent, in what a country am I compelled to leave Telemachus ? »

« No, » said I, « my dear Mentor, here thou canst not leave me ; for I will rather perish than suffer thee to depart without me. But has thy Syrian master no compassion ? Will he tear thee, by violence, from my arms ? He must either take away my life, or suffer me to follow thee. Thou hast thyself exhorted me to fly ! why, then, am I forbidden to fly with thee ? I will speak myself to Hazael ; perhaps he may regard my youth and my distress with pity. He, who is so enamoured of wisdom as to seek her in distant countries, cannot surely have a savage or an insensible heart. I will throw myself at his feet ; I will embrace his knees ; and will not suffer him to depart, till he has consented that I should follow thee. My dear Mentor, I will wear the chains of slavery with thee ! I will offer myself to Hazael ; and if he rejects me, my lot is thrown ; and I will seek reception, where I know I shall find it, in the grave ».

« Just as I had pronounced these words, Mentor was called by Hazael, before whom I immediately fell prostrate on the ground. Hazael, who was astonished to see a stranger in that posture, asked what I would request. « I request my life, » said I, for, if I am not permitted to follow Mentor, who is your servant, I must die. The son of the great Ulysses is before thee, who surpassed in wisdom all the Grecian princes, by whom Troy, a city famous throughout all Asia, was overturned : but think not that I boast the dignity of my birth to exact a tribute to my vanity ; I mean only to strengthen the claim of misfortune to thy pity. I have wandered from coast to coast,

vidan, ya se llenan las velas : á Dios, mi querido Telémaco : un esclavo, que tiene temor á los dioses, debe seguir fielmente á su señor. Los dioses no permiten que sea mas de mí mismo : si lo fuera, ellos lo saben bien, no seria de otro, sino de solo vos. A Dios : acordaos de los trabajos de Ulises, y de las lágrimas de Penélope : acordaos de los justos dioses. ¡O dioses, protectores de la inocencia, en qué tierra me veo precisado á dexar á Telémaco !

No, no, le dixe yo, amado Mentor mio, no estará en vuestra mano el dexarme aquí : primero moriré, que os dexe partir, sin ir junto con vos. ¿Luego es ese Syriano vuestro Señor, hombre tan sin piedad ? ¿Ha mamado en su niñez los pechos de alguna tigre ? ¿Querrá desasiros acaso de entre mis brazos ? Preciso es que me dé la muerte, y me dexe seguiros adonde fuereis. Vos mismo me exhortais á que huya, ¿y no quereis que huya, siguiendo vuestros pasos ? Quiero hablar á Azaél ; á caso él tendrá piedad de mi juventud, y mis lágrimas. Pues ama la virtud, y pues la va tan léjos á buscar, no puede ser que tenga un corazon feroz, y sin compasion. Me arrojaré á sus pies, abrazaré sus rodillas, y no le dexaré, sin que me permita seguiros. Seré su esclavo, mi-apreciado Mentor, juntamente con vos, y le ofreceré ponerme entre sus manos. Si no me admite, no hay otro remedio para mí : me libraré del dolor de mi afligida vida.

En este punto llamó Azaél á Mentor. Postréme yo ante él, y él se pasmó, mirando en tal postura á quien no conocia. ¿Qué es, me preguntó, lo que quereis ? La vida, respondí, que no puede durarme, si no me permitis que yo siga á Mentor, vuestro esclavo. Yo soy hijo del grande Ulises, Rey el mas sabio de quantos tiene Grecia, que ha abatido la soberbia ciudad de Troya, famosa en toda la Asia. No os expreso mi nacimiento para vanagloriarme, sino solo para mover en vos alguna compasion de mis desgracias. He buscado á mi padre por todas las regiones del mar en compañía de este hombre, que tenia en lugar de otro padre. La fortuna me le robó por colmo de mis males,

in search of my father ; with this person , whom friendship has made a father to me ; but fortune has at length completed my calamity , by taking him from me : he is now thy slave ; let me , therefore , be thy slave also. If thou art , indeed , a lover of justice , and art going to Crete to acquaint thyself with the laws of Minos , thou wilt not resist the importunity of my distress. Thou seest the son of a mighty prince reduced to sue for slavery , as the only possible condition of comfort : there was a time when I preferred death to servitude in Sicily ; but the evils which I there suffered were but the first essays of the rage of fortune. I now tremble , lest I should not be admitted into that state , which then I would have died to shun. May the gods look down on my misfortunes ! and may Hazael remember Minos , whose wisdom he admires , and whose judgment shall , in the realms of Pluto , pass upon us both. »

« Hazael looked upon me with great complacency and humanity ; and , giving me his hand , raised me from the ground. « I am not ignorant , » said he , « of the wisdom and virtue of Ulysses ; I have been often told what glory he acquired among the Greeks by Mentor ; and fame has made his name familiar to all the nations of the east. Follow me , son of Ulysses ! I will be your father , till you find him from whom you have derived your being. If I had no sense of the glory of Ulysses , or of his misfortunes , or of yours , the friendship which I bear to Mentor would alone induce me to take care of you ; I bought him indeed as a slave , but he is now mine by a nobler connexion ; for the money that he cost me procured me the dearest and most valuable of all my friends. In him I have found that wisdom which I sought ; and to him I owe all the love of virtue that I have acquired : this moment , therefore , I restore his freedom , and continue thine ; I renounce your service , and require only your esteem. »

« The most piercing anguish was now changed in a moment to unutterable joy. I perceived myself delivered from total ruin ; I was approaching my country ; I was favoured with assistance that might enable

y lo ha reducido á ser vuestro esclavo , permitid que lo sea yo tambien. Si es verdad que amais la justicia , y que pasais á Creta para aprender las leyes del prudente Minos , no endurezcais el pecho á mis suspiros , dexadle ablandar de mis lagrimas. Veis al hijo de un Rey reducido á pedir la esclavitud , como su sola esperanza. Antes quise morir en Silicia, que ser esclavo ; pero mis primeras desgracias no eran sino leves indicios de las injurias de la fortuna : hoy temo no poder ser aceptado en el número de los cautivos. O dioses , atended á mis males , ó Azaél , acordaos de Minos , cuya sabiduría admirais , y de que á entrambos nos juzgará en el infierno.

Mirándome Azaél con rostro apacible y humano , me alargó su diestra y levantó de la tierra. Sé , dixo , la virtud y prudencia de vuestro padre. Muchas veces me ha contado Mentor la gloria que se ha adquirido Ulises entre los Griegos , y ademas tambien la fama ha tenido cuidado de divulgar su nombre en todos los pueblos de Oriente. Seguidme , hijo de Ulises , yo seré vuestro padre , hasta que halleis aquel , que os ha dado la vida. Y aun quando no me moviera la gloria de vuestro padre , y las desgracias de ambos , el amor que tengo á Mentor , me moveria á cuidar de vos. Es verdad que lo he comprado como á mi esclavo ; pero le miro como á un amigo fiel. El dinero que dí por él , me ha adquirido el mas caro y precioso amigo que tengo en el mundo. En él he hallado la sabiduría , y solo á él debo todo el amor que tengo á la virtud. Desde éste punto queda en libertad como vos , y nada quiero de ambos en recompensa , sino que eternamente me ameis.

En un instante pasé del dolor mas amargo al mas alegre júbilo , que puede caber en los hombres. Veíame libre de un horrible peligro : acercabame á mi pais : hallaba ayuda para volver á él : lograba el consuelo

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me to reach it ; I had the consolation of being near a person whose love for me had no foundation but the love of virtue ; and whatever else could contribute to my felicity was comprehended in my meeting with Mentor to part no more.

« Hazael proceeded directly to the port , followed by Mentor and myself, and we all embarked together : the peaceful waves were divided by our oars ; and a gentle breeze , which sported in our sails , seemed , as it were to animate our bark , and impel it forward with an easy motion. Cyprus quickly disappeared , and Hazael , who was impatient to know my sentiments , asked me what I thought of the manners of that island. I told him ingenuously the dangers to which my youth had been exposed , and the conflict which had agitated my bosom. He was touched at my horror of vice ; and cried out — « Venus , I acknowledge thy power , and that of thy son ; and I have burnt incense upon thy altars ; but forgive me if I detest that infamous effeminacy which prevails in thy dominions , and the brutal sensuality which is practised at thy feasts. »

« He then discoursed with Mentor of that first power which produced the heavens and the earth ; that infinite and immutable intelligence which communicates itself to all , but is not divided ; that sovereign and universal truth which illuminates intellectual nature , as the sun enlightens the material world. « He who has never received this pure emanation of divinity , » said Hazael , « is as blind as those who are born without sight ; he passes through life in darkness , like that which involves the polar regions , where the night is protracted to half the year ; he believes himself to be wise , but is indeed a fool ; he imagines that his eye comprehends every object , yet he lives and dies without seeing any thing ; or , at most , he perceives only some fleeting illusions by a glimmering and deceitful light ; some unsubstantial vapours , that are every moment changing their colour and shape , and at length fade into total obscurity : such is the state of every man who is captivated

de estar cerca de un hombre, que me empezaba á amar sólo por el amor de la virtud; y finalmente, hallaba todas las cosas, recobrando á Mentor, para nunca mas apartarme de él.

Marchó Azaél ácia la ribera, y le seguimos nosotros. Entramos todos en el baxel, surcando los remos en el mar tranquilo: jugaba en nuestras velas un apacible céfiro, é impeliendo todo el baxel, le hacia caminar con suave y ligero movimiento: ocultóse al instante de nosotros la Isla fatal de Chipre. Estaba impaciente Azaél por descubrir mis íntimos sentimientos: mandóme á hablar de las costumbres de aquella Isla, y preguntóme, ¿qué me parecia? Díxele ingenuamente los peligros á que se habia expuesto mi juventud, y la lucha, que dentro de mí mismo habia padecido. Viendo el horror que yo tenia al vicio, se enterneció Azaél, y dixo éstas palabras: Conozco, Venus! vuestra potencia y la de vuestro hijo: he abrasado inciensos en vuestras aras; pero permitid que deteste la afeminacion infame de los habitantes de vuestra Isla, y la brutal desvergüenza con que celebran los dias de vuestras fiestas.

Despues prosiguió hablando con Mentor de aquella primera potencia, que fabricó el cielo, y la tierra, de aquella luz simple, infinita, inmutable, que se comunica á todos, sin dividirse, de aquella verdad suma y universal, que ilumina á todas las almas, como ilumina el sol á todos los cuerpos. Aquel, proseguia diciendo, que no ha visto jamas aquella pura luz, es ciego, como el ciego de nacimiento, y pasa en una noche profunda su vida, á manera de aquellos pueblos, á quienes en muchos meses del año no llega el resplandor del sol. Persuadese que es sabio, y es necio: piensa que lo ve todo, y no ve cosa alguna, y aun se muere, sin haber visto nada: á lo mas, no descubre sino oscuros y falsos resplandores, sino sombras ó fantasmas, que nada tienen de realidad. De esta manera son todos los hombres, que se dexan llevar del deleite de los sentidos, y del hechizo de su imaginacion. No hay en la tierra otros hombres, que de verdad lo sean, fuera de aquellos que se aconsejan con la eterna razon,

by the pleasures of sense, and allured by the gaudy phantoms of imagination ! Indeed, none are worthy the name of men but those who walk by the dictates of eternal reason, who love and follow the guiding ray that is vouchsafed from above : it is by this reason that we are inspired, when our thoughts are good ; and by this we are reprov'd, when they are evil ; from this we derive intelligence and life ; this is an ocean, of which we are but small streams, that are quickly re-absorb'd in the abyss from which they flowed ! »

« This discourse, indeed, I did not perfectly comprehend ; yet I perceived something in it that was elevated and refined ; and my heart caught fire at the beams of truth which glanced within the verge of my understanding. They proceeded to talk of the origin of the gods, of heroes, poets, the golden age, and the universal deluge ; of the river of oblivion, in which the souls of the dead are plunged ; the perpetual punishment that is inflicted upon the wicked in the gloomy gulf of Tartarus ; and of that happy tranquillity which is enjoyed in the fields of Elysium by the spirits of the just, who exult in the assurance that it shall last for ever.

« While Hazael and Mentor were discoursing these topics, we perceived several dolphins approaching, whose scales were varied with azure and gold, and whose sport swelled the sea into waves, and covered it with foam ; these were followed by tritons, who, with their spiral shells, emulated the music of the trumpet ; and in the midst of them appeared the chariot of Amphitrite, drawn by sea horses whiter than snow ; which dividing the waves as they passed, left behind them long furrows in the deep ; fire sparkled in their eyes, and from their nostrils issued clouds of smoke : the chariot of the goddess was a shell, whiter and more bright than ivory, of a wonderful figure ; it was mounted upon wheels of gold, and seemed almost to fly over the level surface of the water ; a great number of young nymphs swam in a crowd after the chariot ; and their hair, which was decorated with flowers, flowed loosely behind them, and wantoned

la aman y la siguen. Ella es quien nos inspira los pensamientos buenos, la que nos reprehende los malos : de ella hemos recibido nuestro entendimiento , no ménos que la vida. Ella es como un océano de luz, y nuestros entendimientos son como unos pequeños arroyuelos que salen de ella , para restituirse á ella misma.

Aunque yo no entienda todavía perfectamente los sabios y profundos sentidos de éste razonamiento , no dexaba con todo de percibir un no sé qué de puro , y de sublime : inflamabasté mi corazón , y parecíame , que en todas estas palabras lucia la verdad. Continuáron ambos en conversar del origen de los dioses , de los héroes , de los poetas , del siglo de oro , del diluvio , de las primitivas historias del linage humano , del rio del olvido , en que van á bañarse las almas de los difuntos , de las eternas penas dispuestas á los malos en la lóbrega sima del abismo , y de aquella dichosa paz de que gozan los justos en los campos Elísios , sin miedo de poderla jamas perder.

Mientras que discurrían Azaél y Mentor , vimos algunos delfines cubiertos de una escama , que parecia de oro y azul , que jugueteando levantaban el agua , formando de ella bellísimos penachos plateados de la espuma. Detras de ellos venían los tritones , que con sus retorcidos caracoles imitaban al vivo el estruendo de las trompetas. Estos ceñían el carro de Anfitrite , tirado de algunos caballos marinos , mas blancos que la nieve , que hendiendo las aguas salobres , dexaban á la espalda señalado su veloz curso con un prolixo surco , sembrado de ricos aljófares. El carro de la diosa era una concha de maravillosa figura , de un candor mas brillante que el de marfil ; cuyo movimiento alenaban preciosas ruedas de oro. No parece que corria , sino que volaba con rapidez sobre la superficie de las ondas. Nadaban de tropel detras del carro muchas ninfas coronadas de flores , sueltos á las espaldas sus cabellos , que se movían á discrecion del viento. Lle-

in the breeze. The goddess held in one hand a sceptre of gold, with which she awed the waves to obedience; and, with the other, she held the little god Palemon, her son, whom she suckled, upon her lap: such sweetness and majesty were expressed in her countenance, that the rebellious winds dispersed at her appearance, and gloomy tempests howled only at a distance, The tritons guided the horses with golden reins, and a large purple sail waved above, which was but half distended by a multitude of little zephyrs, who laboured to swell it with their breath. In the mid air appeared Æolus, busy, restless, and vehement; his wrinkled and morose countenance, his hoarse and threatening voice, his shaggy brows, which hung down to his beard, and the sullen austerity that gleamed in his eyes, awed the hurricanes of the north to silence and drove back the clouds to the horizon. Whales of an enormous size, and all the monsters of the deep, that caused the sea to ebb and flow with their nostrils, rushed from their secret recesses, and came in haste to gaze upon the goddess. »

END OF THE FOURTH BOOK.

vaba en su diestra la diosa un cetro de oro para mandar las aguas, y con la otra apretaba en su regazo al pequeño dios Palemon, pendiente de sus hermosos pechos, tenia un rostro sereno, y una magestad apacible, que desterraba los vientos tumultuosos, y las formidables borrascas. Los tritones regian los caballos con sus doradas riendas. Ondeaba con el ayre sobre el carro una crecida vela de púrpura, que estaba medio hinchada al soplo de una tropa de pequeños céfiros, que así la procuraban impeler. Veíase en medio del ayre á Eolo, cuidadoso, inquieto, é impetuoso, arrugado su rostro, y melancólico, la voz amenazadora, muy pobladas las cejas, y muy largas; llenos los ojos de una obscura y severa luz, hacia que calláran los fieros aquilones, y ponía en fuga todas las nubes. Las disformes ballenas, y todos los monstruos marinos, entrando, y despidiendo por las narices las salobres aguas, salían de sus grutas apresurados para ver la diosa.

FIN DEL LIBRO CUARTO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK V.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS relates, that when he arrived at Crete, he learnt that Idomeneus, the king of that island, had, in consequence of a rash vow, sacrificed his only son; that the Cretans, to revenge the murder, had driven him out of the country, and that after long uncertainty they were then assembled to elect a new sovereign: that he was admitted into the assembly; that he obtained the prize in various exercises; and having also resolved the questions that had been recorded by Minos in the book of his laws, the sages, who were judges of the contest, and all the people, seeing his wisdom, would have made him king.

« SOON after the goddess and her train disappeared, we began to discover the mountains of Crete, though we could yet scarce distinguish them from the clouds of heaven, and the waves of the sea; but it was not long before the summit of Mount Ida was seen, towering above the neighbouring mountains, as the spreading antlers of a stag are distinguished among the young fawns that surround him. By degrees we discovered more distinctly the coast of the island, which had the appearance of an amphitheatre. As, in Cyprus, the soil was wild and uncultivated; in Crete, it was fertilized and enriched with every kind of fruit by the labour of its inhabitants.

« We perceived innumerable villages that were well built, towns that were little inferior to cities, and cities that were in the highest degree magnificent: there was no field on which the husbandman had not impressed the characters of diligence and labour; the plough was every where to be traced: and there was scarce a bramble or a weed to be found in the is-

TELEMACO.

LIBRO V.

SUMARIO.

LLEGAN á Creta Telemaca y Mentor. Costumbres de los Cretenses. Trágica historia de Idomenéo, Rey de aquella Isla, que dió muerte á su propio hijo. Parte Idomenéo de Creta : sus amigos le conducen á otro pais. Queda Creta sin Rey. Juntase el pueblo para elegir á uno. Propónense algunos juegos para dar la corona al que quedára vencedor. Descripción de muchos juegos, y de vencimientos en la lucha del cesto, y de corridas de carros. Entra Telemaco en los juegos por galantería, para experimentar su destreza. Alcanza la victoria en algunos. Introdúcenle en la asamblea de los viejos electores de Rey. Propónense algunas questiones, y responde á ellas.

DESPUES que con asombro vimos este espectáculo, empezamos á descubrir las montañas de Creta ; pero no sin costarnos todavía trabajo el distinguirlas de las nubes y del agua. Bien presto observamos la cumbre del monte Ida, que se levanta sobre los demás montes de la isla, como un antiguo ciervo en el bosque levanta sus enramadas hastas sobre la frente de los cervatillos, que le van siguiendo. Poco á poco se nos aclaró mas la ribera de aquella isla, que se nos presentó á los ojos como un anfiteatro. Quanto nos parecia despreciada, é inculta la tierra de Chipre, otro tanto se nos mostraba fértil la de Creta, y cargada de todos frutos por el trabajo del cultivo, que empleaban en ella sus moradores.

Veíamos aldeas fabricadas pulidamente ; lugares que competian con las ciudades, y ciudades soberbias por todas partes. No advertíamos valle, ó monte en que no se notára impresa la mano diligente del labrador, y en todas partes habia el arado dexado profundos surcos. Resonocimos con deleite valles bien hondos, donde andaban bramando las vacadas en sus

land. We remarked, with pleasure, the deep vallies in which numerous herds of cattle were grazing, among many rivulets that enriched the soil; the sheep that were feeding on the declivity of the hills; the spacious plains that were covered with the 'golden bounty of Ceres; and the mountains that were adorned with the lively verdure of the vine, and clusters of grapes that were already tinged with blue, and promised the blessing of Bacchus, wine, which soothes anxiety to peace, and animates weariness with new vigour.

«Mentor told us, that he had before been in Crete, and acquainted us with whatever he knew of the country. «This island,» said he, «which is admired by all foreigners, and famous for its hundred cities, produces all the necessaries of life in great plenty for its inhabitants, although they are almost innumerable; for the earth is always profusely bountiful to those who cultivate it, and its treasures are inexhaustible. The greater the number of inhabitants in any country, the greater plenty they enjoy, if they are not idle; nor have they any cause to be jealous of each other. The earth, like a good parent, multiplies her gifts, in proportion to the number of her children, who merit her bounty by their labour. The ambition and the avarice of mankind are the only sources of their calamities; every individual wishes to possess the portion of all; and becomes wretched by the desire of superfluities. If men would be content with the simplicity of nature, and wish only to satisfy their real necessities, plenty, cheerfulness, domestic concord, and public tranquillity, would be uninterrupted and universal.

«A deep knowledge of these important truths was the glory of Minos, the wisest legislator, and the best of kings. All the wonders of this island are the effects of his laws; the education which he prescribed for children, renders the body healthy and robust, and forms an early habit of frugality and labour. That every species and degree of voluptuousness will proportionably debilitate both the body and the mind, is an established maxim; and no pleasure

crecidos pastos , cerca de los ruidosos arroyuelos : los carneros , que se apacentaban en la vertiente de algun collado : la extendida campiña cubierta de nuevas espigas , con las cuales la habia enriquecido su fertilidad misma : y finalmente , las montañas adornadas de pámpanos , y de racimos de uvas , que iban entrando en sazon , y prometian el sabroso vino , que mitiga el afan de los hombres y de los viñadores.

Mentor nos dijo , que ántes de ahora habia estado en Creta , y nos informó de todo quanto sabia. Esta isla , decia , admirada de todos los extrangeros , es famosa por sus cien ciudades : alimenta á todos sus moradores , aunque son casi innumerables , sin alguna dificultad ; porque nunca dexa la tierra de contribuir largamente sus riquezas á los que la cultivan , y no puede vaciarse su fecundo seno. Quanto mayor número de hombres hay en un pais , con tal que sean ellos laboriosos , tanto mas logran de la abundancia. Nunca estan en necesidad de estar celosos los unos de los otros ; porque ésta buena madre va multiplicando los dones á proporcion del número de sus hijos , que merecen el fruto de sus fatigas. El único origen de todas las miserias de los hombres , son la avaricia y ambicion. Ellos lo quieren todo , y se hacen desdichados , deseando lo que no han menester. Si quisieran vivir sencillamente , y contentarse con satisfacer á las necesidades , en todas partes se viera la abundancia , la alegría , la concordia y la paz.

Esto es aquello , que habia comprehendido Minos , el mas sabio y mejor de quantos Reyes hubo ; y todo lo que en Creta veréis mas admirable , es fruto de los suyos. El modo con que hacia criar los niños , hace los cuerpos sanos , y robustos. Acostumbranse desde la cuna á una vida sencilla , templada y laboriosa. Creen , que qualquier deleite debilita el cuerpo y el ánimo ; ni jamas se les ofrece otro placer , que el de ser invencibles con la virtud , y el de adquirir gloria. Aquí no

is proposed as the object of desire but that of becoming invincible by heroic virtue, and distinguished from others by superior glory: courage is not considered as the contempt of death only in the field of battle, but of superfluous wealth and shameful pleasure. And three vices are punished in Crete, which in every other country are suffered with impunity; ingratitude, dissimulation, and avarice.

« It might, perhaps, be expected that there should be some law against luxury and pomp; but at Crete luxury and pomp are not known. Every man labours, and no man thinks of becoming rich; labour is thought to be sufficiently recompensed by a life of quiet and regularity, in which all that the wants of nature have made necessary is enjoyed in plenty and in peace. No splendid palace nor costly furniture, no magnificent apparel or voluptuous festivity, is permitted: the habits, are indeed, made of the finest wool, and dyed of the most beautiful colour; but they are perfectly plain, and without embroidery. Their meals, at which they drink little wine, are extremely temperate, consisting chiefly of bread, such fruits as the season produces, and milk: if they ever taste animal food, it is in a small quantity, plainly dressed, and of the coarsest kind; for they always reserve the finest cattle for labour, that agriculture may flourish. The houses are neat, convenient, and pleasant, but without ornament; architecture is, indeed, well known among them, in its utmost elegance and magnificence; but the practice of this art is reserved for the temples of the gods, and it is thought presumptuous in a mortal to have a dwelling like theirs. The wealth of the Cretans consists in health, vigour; and courage, domestic quiet and concord, public liberty, plenty of all that is necessary, and contempt of all that is superfluous; an habit of industry; an abhorrence of idleness, an emulation in virtue, submission to the laws, and a reverence of the gods. »

« I enquired what were the bounds of the sovereign authority; and Mentor answered, — « The authori-

se pone solamente el esfuerzo en despreciar la muerte entre los riesgos de la guerra, sino en llorar las riquezas y vergonzosos placeres. Castíganse tres vicios, que en otros pueblos pasan sin correccion, la disimulacion, la avaricia y la ingratitud.

La soberbia y la afeminacion son desconocidas en Creta; y por eso jamas es menester reprimirlas. Todos trabajan, y nadie piensa en hacerse rico: cada uno se cree harto bien premiado de su propio trabajo, con una vida apacible y reglada, en que logra sin sobresalto, y con abundancia quanto es à la verdad necesario para la vida. Aquí no se permiten muebles preciosos, ni vestidos magníficos, ni palacios dorados, ni convites de gran regalo. Los vestidos son de lana fina y de buen color, pero llanos y sin adorno, ó bordadura alguna. Se come, y bebe vino con templanza: la principal vianda de sus mesas es el buen pan, y la fruta que dan los árboles por sí mismos, con la leche de sus ganados. Los mas comen manjares groseros, sin aderezo, ó salsa mas que muy ordinaria. A mas, que tienen cuidado de reservar los bueyes escogidos de sus grandes vacadas, para hacerlos servir à la agricultura. Las casas son pulidas, alegres, acomodadas, y sin adornos. Saben estos pueblos el arte de la arquitectura magnífica; pero está reservada para solos los templos, y no se atreverian los hombres à tener casas como las que sirven para los dioses. Las grandiosas riquezas de los Cretenses son la salud, la fuerza, y el denuedo, la paz, la concordia de las familias, la libertad de todos los ciudadanos, la abundancia de las cosas necesarias, el desprecio de las superfluas, el ejercicio del trabajo, el horror del ocio, la emulacion de la virtud, la sujecion à las leyes y el temor de los justos dioses.

Preguntéle, en qué consistia la autoridad del Rey!
Y Mentor respondió: el Rey lo puede todo sobre el

ty of the king over the subject is absolute, but the authority of the law is absolute over him; his power to do good is unlimited, but he is restrained from doing evil. The laws have put the people into his hands as the most valuable deposit, upon condition that he shall treat them as his children; for it is the intent of the law that the wisdom and equity of one man shall be the happiness of many, and not that the wretchedness and slavery of many should gratify the pride and luxury of one. The king ought to possess nothing more than the subject, but in proportion as more is necessary to alleviate the fatigue of his station, and impress upon the minds of the people a reverence of that authority by which the laws are executed. In every other respect the king should indulge himself less, as well in ease as in pleasure, and should be less disposed to the pomp and the pride of the life than any other man: he ought not to be distinguished from the rest of mankind by the greatness of his wealth, or the variety of his enjoyments, but by superior wisdom, more heroic virtue, and more splendid glory. Abroad he ought to be the defender of his country, by commanding her armies; and at home, the judge of his people, distributing justice among them, improving their morals, and increasing their felicity. It is not for himself that the gods have entrusted him with royalty; he is exalted above individuals only that he may be the servant of the public; to the public he owes all his time, the public should engage all his attention, and his love should have no object but the public! for he deserves dignity only in proportion as he gives up private enjoyments for the public good.

« Minos directed, that his children should not succeed to his throne, but upon condition that they should govern by these maxims; for he loved his people yet more than his family; and by this wise institution he ensured power and happiness to his kingdom. Thus did Minos, the peaceful legislator, eclipse the glory of mighty conquerors, who sacrificed nations to their own vanity, and imagined they were great.

pueblo ; pero las leyes lo pueden todo sobre él. Para hacer bien tiene un absoluto poder ; y en queriendo hacer mal , se halla con las manos atadas. Las leyes confían de él los pueblos como el mas precioso depósito , con condicion de que sea padre de todos sus súbditos. Quieren que sirva un solo hombre con su sabiduría , y moderacion á la felicidad de tantos otros ; y no que tantos hombres sirvan con su miseria y vil servidumbre , para adular el orgullo y delicadeza de solo uno. No debe el Rey poseer alguna cosa mas que sus súbditos , sino lo que sea preciso , ó para recrearlo en sus trabajosos empleos , ó para imprimir el respeto en los pueblos ácia aquella persona que ha de mantener las leyes. Debe tambien el Rey ser templado , y mas enemigo de la afeminacion , mas abstenido del fausto , mas apartado de la altivez que otro qualquiera que sea. No debe tener mas riquezas , mas deleites , mas prudencia , mas virtud , y mas gloria que el resto de los hombres. Fuera mandando los exércitos , debe ser defensor de la patria ; y dentro de su estado ha de ser el juez de los pueblos , para hacerlos buenos , sabios y felices. No lo han hecho los dioses Rey para sí mismo , sino para que sea el hombre de los pueblos. Debe dar á los pueblos todo su tiempo , todos sus pensamientos , todo su amor , y no es digno del Principado , sino en quanto se olvida de sí propio , por sacrificarse al bien público.

No quiso Minos que reynaran sus hijos despues de él , sino con condicion que hubiesen de reinar conforme á estas máximas. Amaba mucho mas á su pueblo , que á su familia propia. Con tal prudencia hizo á Creta tan poderosa y afortunada : con ésta moderacion obscureció la gloria de todos los conquistadores , que pretenden hacer que los pueblos sirvan á su propia grandeza , que es lo mismo que á su soberbia ; y

great. The power of these tyrants, after a few years, left them in the grave; but the justice of Minos has placed him on a more awful tribunal in the world of spirits, where he distributes everlasting rewards and punishments as the supreme judge of the dead.»

«As we were listening to Mentor, we arrived at the island: and, as soon as we came on shore, we viewed the celebrated labyrinth which had been built by Dædalus, in imitation of that of much larger extent which we had seen in Egypt. While we were contemplating this curious edifice, we perceived all the coast covered with a multitude of people, who gathered in a crowd at a place not far distant from the sea; we inquired the cause of this commotion, and our curiosity was immediately gratified by a Cretan, whose name was Nausicrates.

«Idomeneus,» said he, «the son of Deucalion, and grandson of Minos, accompanied the other princes of Greece in their expedition against Troy; and after the destruction of that city he set sail for Crete; but they were overtaken by so violent a tempest, that the pilot, and all the persons on board the vessel, who were skilled in navigation, believed their shipwreck to be inevitable. Death was present to every imagination; every one thought he saw the abyss open to swallow him; and every one deplored the misfortune, which did not leave him the mournful hope of that imperfect rest, to which the spirits of the dead are admitted beyond the waters of the Styx, after funeral rites have been paid to the body. In this situation, Idomeneus, lifting up his hands and his eyes to heaven, and invoking Neptune, cried out — O mighty Deity, to whom belong the dominions of the deep, vouchsafe to hear me in this uttermost distress! If thou wilt protect me from the fury of the waves, and restore me in safety to my country, I will offer up to thee the first living object that I see on my return!

«In the mean time, his son hastened to meet him with all the ardour of filial affection, and pleased himself with the thought of receiving the first embrace. Unhappy youth! he knew not that to hasten to his

finalmente, con la justicia se hizo digno de ser el supremo juez de los muertos en el infierno.

Hablando así Mentor, llegamos á la Isla, y vimos el famoso laberinto, fábrica de las manos del ingeniosísimo Dédalo, que era una imitacion del grande laberinto, que habíamos visto en Egipto. Miéntas reconocíamos este singular edificio, advertimos, que el pueblo cubria la ribera, y que corria de tropel á un lugar que estaba muy vecino al agua. Preguntamos por la ocasion de aquel apresurado concurso; y nos dió la noticia de todo un paisanó que se llamaba Nau-sícrates.

Idomenéo, dixo, hijo de Deucalion y nieto de Minos, habia ido al asedio de Troya, como los otros Reyes de la Grecia. Desde aquella gran ciudad hizo velas para volverse á Creta; pero le sobrevino una tempestad tan violenta, que el piloto de su baxel, y todos los demas, que eran experimentados en el arte de navegar, tuvieron su naufragio por inevitable. Cada uno temia la muerte en su presencia: cada uno veía mil abismos abiertos para tragarlo: cada uno se quejaba de su desgracia, no esperando, ni aun despues de la muerte, el funesto reposo de aquellas almas, cuyos cuerpos no habian de llegar al sepulcro, sino quedar por cebo de los hambrientos peces. Levantando los ojos y las manos al cielo, invocaba á Neptuno Idomenéo. Vos, que poseeis el imperio del mar, decia en alta voz, dignaos, ó poderoso Dios, de oír á un desgraciado. Si á despecho del furor de los vientos haceis que me restituya á la Isla de Creta, yo os haré sacrificio de la persona que primero en ella vieren mis ojos.

Entre tanto, impaciente un hijo de Idomenéo por llegar á ver á su padre y lograr el consuelo de abrazarlo, se dió prisa para este efecto. ¡ Infelice, que no sabia que así se abalanzaba á la perdicion! El padre,

father was to rush upon destruction. Idomeneus, escaping the tempest, arrived at his port, and returned thanks to Neptune for having heard his vow; but he was soon sensible of the fatal effects it would produce. A certain presage of misfortune made him repent his indiscretion with the utmost anguish of mind; he dreaded his arrival among his people, and thought of meeting those who were most dear to him with horror: but Nemesis, a cruel and inexorable goddess, who is ever vigilant to punish mankind, and rejoices to humble the mighty and the proud, impelled him forward with a fatal and invisible hand. He proceeded from the vessel to the shore; but he had scarce ventured to lift up his eyes, when he beheld his son: he started back, pale and trembling; he turned his eyes on every side to find another victim to whom he was less tenderly allied! but it was too late!

« His son sprung to him, and threw his arms round his neck; but perceived, with astonishment, that instead of returning his caresses, he stood motionless, and at length burst into tears. « O my father! » said he, « what is the cause of this sorrow? After so long an absence, art thou grieved to return to thy people, and restore happiness to thy son? In what, alas! have I offended? Thy eyes are still turned from me, as if they loathed or dreaded to behold me! » — The father, overwhelmed with grief, was not yet able to reply; but, after some sighs that struggled in his bosom had burst away, he cried out — « O Neptune! what have I promised thee? On what condition hast thou preserved me from shipwreck? O leave me again to the billows and the rocks! Let me be dashed to pieces, and swallowed in the deep; but preserve my son! Cruel and unrelenting god! let my blood be accepted as a recompense for his! » He then snatched out his sword, and attempted to plunge it in his bosom; but those who stood near him held back his hand.

Sophronimus, an hoary prophet, who had long interpreted the will of the gods, assured him that Neptune might be satisfied without the death of his son. « Your vow, » said he, « was rash and iniquitous;

libre ya de la tormenta, se acercaba al puerto de la Scitia, y agradecía á Neptuno, que hubiera dado oídos á sus ruegos; pero advirtió bien presto quanto estos le habian de ser funestos. El conocimiento anticipado de su infortunio propio le ocasionaba el dolor gravísimo de su indiscreto voto. Temia llegar entre los suyos: baxaba los ojos y tenia miedo de ver lo que mas amaba el en el mundo. Pero la divina justicia que vela para el castigo de los delitos, y particularmente de la ambicion de los Reyes, movia á Idomenéo con una fatal é incontrastable fuerza. Llegó al fin á Creta, y apenas se atrevió á levantar los ojos, quando vió á su hijo propio. Detiénese despavorido todo, y va con los ojos buscando, mas sin efecto, alguna otra vida, que pueda servirle de víctima.

El hijo en esto se le arroja al cuello, y queda atónito de mirar que corresponda el padre tan mal á sus tiernas demostraciones; y viéndole llorar desmesuradamente, le dice: ¿De dónde viene, padre, ésta vuestra afliccion, despues de una tan larga ausencia? Por suerte os desagrada ver segunda vez vuestro Reyno, y consolar á vuestro hijo? ¿En qué os he ofendido? ¿Volveis ácia otra parte los ojos para no verme? Oprimido con el dolor el padre, no le respondió cosa; pero al fin, despues de algunos profundísimos suspiros prorumpió con decir: ¡Ah, Neptuno, qué promesa te hice! ¡A qué precio me has reservado del naufragio! Vuelveme á la tormenta y á los escollos, que destrozándome, debian poner fin á mi afligida vida, y dexa vivir á mi hijo. Toma, ó cruel Dios! he aquí mi sangre, pero no quieras derramar la suya. Diciendo de esta suerte, desembaynó la espada para atravesarse; pero detuvieron su mano todos aquellos que le estaban cerca.

El anciano Sofrónimo, intérprete de la voluntad de los dioses le aseguró, que sin dar muerte al hijo, podria satisfacer á Neptuno. Nuestra promesa, decia, ha sido imprudente: los dioses no pretenden ser hon-

the gods are not honoured, but offended by cruelty : do not, therefore, add one enormity to another, and violate the laws of nature to accomplish that vow which it was a crime to make. Select an hundred bulls, whiter than snow ; decorate the altar of Neptune with flowers, let these victims be thy blameless offering, and let a cloud of grateful incense ascend in honour of the god. »

« Idomeneus heard this address in an attitude of desperation, and without reply ; his eyes sparkled with fury, his visage became ghastly, his colour changed every moment, and his whole body shook with the agony of his mind. His son was touched with his distress ; and having no wish but to relieve it — My father, » said he, « am I not here ? Delay not to appease the god to whom thou hast vowed ; nor bring down his vengeance upon thy head. If thy life can be redeemed with mine, I will die content : strike, then, O my father ! and fear not that, at the approach of death, I should discover a weakness that is unworthy of thy son ! »

« At this moment Idomeneus, starting from his posture with the sudden violence of outrageous phrenzy, as if roused by the scourge of the infernal furies, surprised the vigilance of those who had their eyes upon him, and plunged his sword in the bosom of his son : he drew it hastily back ; and, while it was yet warm, made an effort to sheath it a second time in his own breast ; but in this he was again prevented.

The youth, who immediately fell, lay weltering in his blood : his eyes were suffused with the shades of death : he attempted to open them ; but, not being able to bear the light, they were immediately closed in everlasting darkness. A lily of the field, when its root is cut away by the plough share, being no longer supported by the stalk, languishes upon the ground ; and, though it does not immediately lose all the lustre of its beauty, yet it is no more nourished by the earth, nor quickened by a vital principle : thus fell the son of Idomeneus, cut down, like a flower, by an untimely stroke, in the first bloom of his youth.

rados con actos de crueldad : mirad bien no añadais al error de vuestra promesa , el de cumplir con ella contra las leyes de la naturaleza. Ofreced á Neptuno cien novillos mas blancos que la nieve : haced correr su sangre en rededor de su altar , coronado de flores , y quemad suave incienso en honor de ese dios ,

Oia Idomenéo con la cabeza baxa y sin responder nada , las voces de Sofrónimo. Habíase en sus ojos encendido vivamente el furor pálido ; y desfigurado su rostro , mudaba de color cada instante , y veíansele temblar todos sus miembros. Entre tanto su hijo le decia : Héme aquí , padre , vuestro hijo está dispuesto á morir , para aplacar la cólera de ese dios. Yo moriré contento , con que os hayais vos preservado con la mia de vuestra muerte. Heridme , ó padre , no temais , que hallaréis en mí un hijo que no sea indigno de vos , ó que tenga horror al morir.

En el momento mismo Idomenéo , totalmente fuera de sí , y como impelido de las furias infernales , sorprende á todos los que le observaban de cerca. Entra toda la espada por el corazon inocente del jovencillo , la saca toda humeando , y teñida de sangre , para meterla en sus entrañas propias , y segunda vez le detienen los que le tenían cercado , y no pudieron estorvar su repentino furor.

Cayó en su propia sangre el triste jovencito , y cerró sus hermosos ojos la sombra formidable de la muerte. Abriólos un poco á la luz ; pero apenas la encontró , ni pudo mas sufrirla. Como en medio del campo un bello lirio , cortada del arado su raiz , se agosta , y ya no puede tenerse derecho , y aunque no haya perdido aun aquel candor hermoso , y aquel delicado esplendor , que deleita los ojos sumamente ; sin embargo la tierra no le alimenta , y feneció su vida ; de la misma manera el hijo de Idomenéo , como una tierna y nueva flor , en su primera edad fué sin piedad tronchado.

« The father, stupified by excess of grief, knew neither where he was, nor what he had done, nor what he ought to do : but walked, with faltering steps, towards the city, and enquired eagerly for his child.

« In the mean time the people, who were moved with compassion for the youth, and with horror at the cruelty of the father, cried out, that the justice of the gods had given him up to the furies : their rage immediately supplied them with weapons ; some snatched sticks, others caught up stones, and discord infused rancour and malignity into every bosom. The Cretans, however wise, were at this time exasperated to folly, and renounced their allegiance to their king. His friends, therefore, as they could no otherwise preserve him from popular fury, conducted him back to the fleet : where they went on board with him, and once more committed themselves to the mercy of the waves. Idomeneus, as soon as he recovered from his phrenzy, thanked them for having forced him from a country which he had stained with the blood of his son ; and which, therefore, he could not bear to inhabit. The winds wafted them to the coast of Hesperia ; and they are now forming a new state in the country of the Salentines.

« The Cretans, having thus lost their king, resolved to elect such a person in his stead as should administer the established laws of the nation in their utmost purity : for this purpose the principal inhabitants of every city have been summoned to this place ; the sacrifices, which are the first solemnities of the election, are already begun ; the most celebrated sages of all the neighbouring countries are assembled to propose questions to the candidates as a trial of their sagacity ; and preparations are made for public games to determine their courage, strength, and activity : for the Cretans are resolved, that, as their kingdom is the prize, they will bestow it upon him only who shall be adjudged superior to all others both in body and in mind ; and to render the victory more difficult, by increasing the number of competitors, all foreigners are invited to the contest. »

Quedó el padre insensible en el raptó de su dolor : no sabe donde está , qué hará , ó qué debe hacer : camina vacilante ácia la ciudad , y va llamando á voces á su hijo perdido.

Movido el pueblo á compasion del hijo , y horrorizado de la bárbara accion del padre , grita , que la justicia de los dioses ha entregado á Idomenéo en manos de las furias. Dale el furor armas , y toman todos palos , y se cargan de piedras. Derrama la discordia un veneno mortal en los corazones : los sabios Cretenses se olvidan de la prudencia , tan observada por ellos fuera de esta ocasion , y ya no reconocen al nieto de su sabio Minos. Los amigos de Idomenéo no discurren para él otra seguridad , que llevando la vuelta de los baxeles , embarcarse todos con él , y huyen á discrecion de los vientos y del mar. Volviendo Idomenéo en sí mismo , les da gracias , por haberle sacado de una tierra bañada con la sangre de su hijo , y en la qual no podia ya vivir. Condúcenlo los vientos ácia la Hesperia , y va con los suyos á fundar un nuevo Reyno en el pais de los Salentinos.

Los Cretenses ahora , hallándose sin Rey que los gobierne , han resuelto elegirle , para que se conserven en su vigor las leyes , ántes ya establecidas. He aquí el órden que deben observar en la eleccion. Hanse ya congregado todos los ciudadanos de las cien ciudades , y se ha dado principio á los sacrificios. Hanse tambien juntado los mas famosos sabios de los paises vecinos , para examinar la virtud de aquellos que parecen dignos de mandar ; y se han dispuesto algunos juegos públicos , en que combaten todos los pretendientes ; porque se quiere dar el Principado por galar don á quien venciere á los demas , así en lo que mira al cuerpo , como en lo que toca el alma. Se quiere un Rey que sea fuerte y diestro en el cuerpo : que tenga un ánimo dotado de prudencia , y virtud : á cuyo fin se llama tambien á concurso á los extrangeros.

« Nausicrates, after having related these astonishing events, pressed us to enter the list. « Make haste, » said he, « O strangers, to our assembly, and engage, among others, in the contest; for if the gods decree the victory to either of you, he will be the sovereign of Crete! » He then turned hastily from us; and we followed him, not with any desire of victory, but only that we might gratify our curiosity, by being present at so uncommon and important a transaction.

« We came to a kind of circus of vast extent, in the middle of a thick forest; within the circus was an area prepared for the combatants, surrounded by a circular bank of fresh turf, on which were seated an innumerable multitude of spectators. We were received with the utmost civility; for the Cretans excel all other people in a liberal and religious performance of the duties of hospitality: they not only caused us to be seated, but invited us to engage in the exercises. Mentor declined it on account of his age; and Hazael, as being in an ill state of health.

My youth and vigour left me no excuse; however, I glanced my eye upon Mentor, to discover his sentiments; and I perceived that he wished I should engage. I therefore accepted the offer that had been made me; and throwing off my apparel, my limbs were anointed with oil, and I placed myself among the other combatants. A rumour immediately passed through the whole multitude, that the new candidate for the kingdom was the son of Ulysses; for several of the Cretans, who had been at Ithaca when I was a child, remembered my face.

« The first exercise was wrestling. A Rhodian, who appeared to be about thirty-five years of age, threw all that ventured to encounter him; he was still in his full vigour; his arms were nervous and brawny; his muscles were discovered at every motion: and his limbs were not less supple than strong. There was now

Después de haber Nausicrates referido ésta notable historia, nos dixo de esta suerte: Apresuraos pues, extranjeros, en venir á nuestra asamblea, combatiréis con los otros; y si destinan los dioses para uno de vosotros la victoria, será Rey de esta Isla. Seguimosle sin deseo alguno del vencimiento, sino tan solamente por la curiosidad de ver una cosa nada vulgar.

Llegamos á una especie de vastísimo cerco ceñido de un espeso bosque: el centro de este sitio era un campo dispuesto para los combatientes; y estaba rodeado de un grande anfiteatro de tierra levantada, cubierta de fresca yerbecilla, sobre la qual estaba sentado por su orden innumerable pueblo. Recibiéronnos al llegar con honra; porque los Cretenses entre todos los pueblos del mundo, son los que mas noblemente exercen la hospitalidad, y con mayor puntualidad que los demas. Hiciéronnos tomar asiento, y nos convidaron á combatir. Excusóse Mentor por su vejez, y Azaél por su débil salud.

A mí no me dexaban alguna excusa mi juventud y mi robustez. Dí sin embargo una ojeada á Mentor, para entender su dictámen, y noté, que tenia deseo de que combatiесе. Acepté pues el convite que se me hizo: despojéme de todos mis vestidos, y me ungiéron al punto con aceyte el cuerpo; y cubierto luego de polvo, me metí entre los combatientes.

Era el primer combate el de la lucha. Venció un Rodio de cerca de treinta y cinco años á todos los demas, que osáron presentarsele. Tenia aun todo el vigor de la juventud: sus brazos eran nervosos y gruesos, y al mas mínimo movimiento que hacia, se leveian todos los músculos; siendo igualmente agíl y forzado.

no competitor remaining but myself; and, as he thought no honour was to be gained by overcoming so feeble an opponent, he indulged the compassion which he felt for my youth, and would have retired; but I pressed forward, and presented myself before him. We immediately seized each other, and grappled, till both were out of breath; we stood shoulder to shoulder, and foot to foot; every nerve was strained, our arms were entwined, like serpents, in each other; and each of us endeavoured to lift his antagonist: from the ground. He attempted to throw me, sometimes by surprise, and sometimes by mere strength sometimes on one side, and sometimes on the other: but, while he was thus practising all his skill and force upon me, I threw myself forward, by a sudden effort, with such violence, that the muscles of his back giving way, he fell to the ground, and drew me upon him. All his efforts to get me under him were ineffectual; I held him immoveable under me, till the multitude shouted — « Victory to the son of Ulysses! » and then I assisted him to rise, and he retired in confusion.

« The combat of the cestus was more difficult. The son of a wealthy citizen of Samos had acquired such reputation in this exercise, that the rest of the candidates yielded to him without contest; and the hope of victory animated no bosom but mine. In the first onset I received such blows on the head and stomach, that blood gushed from my mouth and nostrils, and a thick mist seemed to fall upon my eyes; I reeled; my antagonist pressed upon me; and I was just sinking, faint and breathless, when I heard Mentor cry out — « O son of Ulysses, wilt thou be vanquished! » The voice of my friend encouraged me to farther resistance, and disdain supplied me with new strength. I avoided several blows, which I must otherwise have sunk under; and my antagonist having missed a stroke, I seized the opportunity of his arm being carried away by its own vigour, and his body bent forward, to aim a blow at him that he could not ward off, and I raised my cestus that it might descend with greater force: he saw my advantage; and, stepping

No le parecia digno de ser vencido ; y mirando mi poca edad con ojos compasivos , se quiso retirar ; pero yo me avancé á él. Asímonos entónces el uno con el otro , y nos estrechamos tanto , que nos faltaba la respiracion. Estábamos pecho con pecho , pie con pie , con todos los nervios tirantes , enredados los brazos como serpientes , esforzándose cada uno á levantar al otro de tierra. Ya procuraba él sorprenderme , impeliéndome por el lado derecho : ya se animaba á hacerme doblar por el izquierdo. Miéntas de esta manera me tanteaba , le herí con tal violencia , que cediendo al impulso , cayó sobre la arena , y me atraxo sobre sí mismo. Intentó vanamente sobreponerse á mi primer esfuerzo , porque le tuve inmoble , y pegado á la tierra. Viva el hijo de Ulises , gritó á voces el pueblo ; y sonrojado el Rodio , se levantó del suelo con mi ayuda.

Mas arriesgado fué el combate del cesto. Habiáse adquirido en este género de pelea alta reputacion el hijo de un rico ciudadano de Samio : cediéronle todos los demas , y yo solo esperé vencerlo. Al principio me descargó algunos golpes en la cabeza , y en el estómago que me hizo arrojar sangre , y me turbó la vista como con una espesa y densa nube. Vacilaba yo ya , y él me iba á los alcances , sin dexarme alentar ; pero cobré el esfuerzo á la voz de Mentor ; que me daba voces : ¿ Hijo de Ulises , os dexaréis vencer ? La colera me dió nueva fuerza , y huí de muchos golpes , que sin duda me hubieran oprimido. Miéntas que el Samio , habiéndome tirado un golpe en vago , alargaba sin efecto el brazo , le cogí velozmente en aquella planta algo inclinado á la tierra. Ya él cejaba , quando yo de repente levanté el cesto , para descargarle sobre él con mayor fuerza : quísose desviar , y perdiendo en el movimiento el equilibrio , me ofreció coyuntura de derribarlo. Apenas él estuvo tendido en tierra , le alargué la mano para levantarle con ella ; pero se puso en pie por sí

back, he writhed his body to avoid the stroke. By this motion, the equilibrium was destroyed, and I easily threw him to the ground. I immediately offered him my hand, which he refused; and he got up without assistance, covered with dust and blood, but though he shewed the utmost shame at his defeat, yet he did not dare to renew the combat.

« The chariot races immediately followed: The chariots were distributed by lot; and mine happened to be the worst of the whole number; the wheels were more heavy, and the horses less vigorous. We started; and the cloud of dust that rose behind us obscured the sky. At the beginning of the race, I suffered the others to get before me: but a young Lacedæmonian, whose name was Crantor left them all behind him! and Polycletus, a Cretan, followed him at a small distance. Hippomachus, a relation of Idomeneus, who was ambitious to succeed him, giving reins to his horses, which were covered with sweat, leaned forward over their necks; and the wheels whirled round with such rapidity, that, like the wings of an eagle floating upon the air, they seemed not to move at all. My horses, which had been breathed by degrees, beginning now to exert themselves, soon left almost all those that had set out with so much ardour at a great distance behind them; and Hippomachus, pressing forward to keep his advantage with too much eagerness, the most vigorous of his horses fell down, and put an end to the hopes of his master.

Polycletus, leaning too much over his horses, was thrown out of his chariot by a sudden shock; the reins were forced out of his hand; and though he had now no hope of victory, he thought himself happy to have escaped with his life. Crantor, perceiving, with jealousy and indignation, that I was now close behind him, urged forward with more eagerness, sometimes vowing rich offerings to the gods, and sometimes encouraging his horses: he was afraid I should pass him, by driving between his chariot and the barrier of the course, because my horses having been less exhausted, were able to get before him, if they had room, though they should wheel round on the out-

mismo cubierto de sangre, y de polvo. Fué grande su vergüenza : sin embargo no quiso volver á combatir.

Despues de esto inmediatamente se dió principio al juego de los carros, que se distribuyéron por suertes. Fué el mio el mas pequeño, y veloz por la ligereza de ruedas, y brio de los caballos. Arrancamos nuestra carrera : levántase una nube de polvo, y casi quita de los ojos al cielo. Dexé pasar delante á todos los demas, al punto que nos movimos. Llevaba la ventaja á los otros un mancebo Lacon, que se llamaba Crantor, y le iba á los alcances un Cretés, nombrado Policieto Ipómaco, pariente de Idomenéo, á cuya sucesion aspiraba, dando rienda á sus brutos, que humeaban con el sudor. Iba inclinado á sus undosas crines, y era tan rápido el movimiento que llevaban las ruedas de su carro, que no parecian moverse; así como las alas de la águila, quando ella rasga el ayre con mas impulso. Alentáronse mis caballos, y cobraron poco á poco el ayre, de forma que despues dexé muy atrás á todos los que habian arrancado con mayor fuerza. Dando Ipómaco demasiada priesa á sus caballos, cayó en tierra el de mayor vigor, y quitó á su señor con la caida la esperanza de dominar.

Policieto inclinándose demasiado sobre los caballos, no se pudo tener, y cayó de un vayven. Fuéronsele las riendas de la mano, y tuvo cierta fortuna, pues pudo en su caida librarse de la muerte. Pisistrato mirando lleno de indignacion, que yo le iba muy cerca, dobló el ímpetu de la carrera : ya invocaba á los dioses, prometiéndoles ricos dones : yá hablaba á los caballos para infundirles brio. Temió que yo pasára entre él, y la estacada ; y no teniendo ya otra esperanza que embarazarme el paso, para cerrarle se arriesgó á destrozar su carro en la barrera ; y en efecto despedazó una rueda. No me detuve en otra cosa, que en hacer prontamente un giro, porque no me impidiera su de-

side of the track. This could be no otherwise prevented than by obstructing the passage ; he therefore, though he saw the danger of the attempt , drove up so close to the barrier , that his wheel , being forced against it , was torn off , and his chariot dismounted. I had now nothing to do but to turn short , that I might keep clear of him ; and the next moment he saw me at the goal. The multitude once more shouted — « Victory to the son of Ulysses ! It is he whom the gods have appointed to reign over us ! »

« We were then conducted , by the most illustrious and venerable of the Cretans , into a wood , which had been long kept sacred from the vulgar and the profane ; where we were convened by those ancient oracles of wisdom who had been appointed by Minos to preserve the laws from violation , and administer justice to the people. But into this assembly those only who had contended in the games were admitted. The sages opened the book into which all the laws of Minos had been collected. I was touched with reverence and humility , when I approached these fathers of their country , whom age had rendered venerable without impairing their vigour of mind. They sat , with great order and solemnity , in a fixed posture ; their hair was white as snow , but some of them had scarce any left ; and their countenances , though grave , were brightened with a calm and placid sagacity. They were not forward to speak ; and they said nothing that was not the result of mature deliberation : when their opinions were different , they supported them with so much candour and moderation , that it could scarcely be believed they were not of one mind. By long experience and close application , they had acquired the most acute discernment and extensive knowledge ; but that which principally conduced to the strength and rectitude of their judgment , was the sedate , dispassionate tranquillity of mind , that had been long freed from the tumultuous passions and capricious levity of youth. Wisdom alone was their principle of action ; and , by the long and habitual practice of virtue , they had so corrected every irregu-

sórden , y un momento despues me vió al fin de la carrera. Gritó otra vez el pueblo : Viva el hijo de Ulises. Los dioses le destinan nuestra corona.

Entónces los Cretenses mas ilustres , y sabios nos conduxéron á una antigua y sagrada selva , apartada de los hombres profanos , en donde los ancianos , que habia Minos establecido por jueces del pueblo , y guardas de las leyes , nos hicieron juntar. Aqui concurríamos los mismos que habiamos combatido en los juegos , y á ningun otro se admitió. Abriéron los sabios los libros , en que estan recogidas las leyes del Rey Minos. Sentíme lleno de respeto , y de confusion , quando me acerqué á aquellos viejos , á quienes hacia respetables la edad , sin enervar la fuerza del entendimiento. Estaban sentados por órden , é inmóviles en sus puestos. Tenian las cabezas cubiertas de canas , y algunos las tenian casi despobladas de cabello : veíase brillar en sus graves aspectos una prudencia suave y sosegada : no se apresuraban en sus razones , ni decian mas de lo que tenian resuelto explicar. Quando eran de diverso dictamen , eran tan moderados en mantener su opinion por una , y otra parte , que parecia eran todos de una misma. La prolixa experiencia de las cosas pasadas , y el hábito del trabajo , les daba grande conocimiento sobre qualquier materia ; mas lo que especialmente contribuia á la perfeccion de sus talentos , era la tranquilidad de sus ánimos , libres de las necias pasiones , y de las bizarrías de la juventud. Obraba en ellos sola la prudencia ; y el fruto de su larga virtud , era el haber dominado tan bien á sus afectos , que gustaban sin fatigarse el suave , y noble recreo de escuchar los consejos de la razon. Deseé , admirándoles , que se me acortára la vida , para llegar de un vuelo á una tan preciosa ancianidad ; y la juventud me parecia

lar disposition, that they tasted the calm, yet elevated, delights of reason without alloy. To these awful beings I lifted up my eyes with admiration; and wished that, by a sudden contraction of my life, I might immediately arrive at so desirable an old age; for I perceived youth to be a state of infelicity, subject to the blind impetuosity of passion, and far from the perspicacious tranquillity of their virtue.

« The person who presided in this assembly opened the book into which all the laws of Minos had been collected. It was a large volume, and was kept locked up, with the richest perfumes, in a golden box. When it was taken out, all the sages kissed it with a profound respect, and said that, the gods only excepted, from whom all good is originally derived, nothing should be held so sacred as those laws which promote wisdom, virtue; and happiness: those who put these laws in execution for the government of others, should also, by these laws, govern themselves; for it is the law that ought to reign, and not the man. Such were the sentiments of this hoary council: and the president then proposed three questions, which were to be resolved by the maxims of Minos.

« The first question was — « What man is most free? » One answered, that it was a king who governed his people with absolute authority, and had triumphed over all his enemies. Another said, that it was he whose riches enabled him to purchase whatever he desired. In the opinion of some, it was a man who had never married, and who was perpetually travelling from one country to another, without subjecting himself to the laws of any. Others supposed it might be a savage, who, living wild in the woods, and subsisting himself by hunting, was independent of all society, and suffered no want as an individual: others thought of a slave immediately after emancipation; because, being just relieved from the severities of servitude, he would have a more lively sense of the sweets of freedom. And there were some who said, that a man, at the point of death, was more free than all others; because death breaks every bond, and over the dead the united world has no power.

infeliz, por hallarse tan léjos de aquella tan perspicaz, y tan consumada experiencia.

Abrió el principal de ellos el libro de las leyes de Minos. Era este un gran volumen, que estaba de ordinario cerrado en una caja de oro entre muchos perfumes. Todos aquellos viejos le llegaron con respeto á sus labios para besarle; porque decian que despues de los dioses, de quienes se derivan las buenas leyes, no ha de haber cosa alguna entre los hombres, que sea tan sagrada como las leyes destinadas á hacerlos buenos, sabios, y felices. Los que tienen las leyes en sus manos para regir los pueblos, deben dexarse siempre gobernar de las propias leyes. La ley es la que siempre ha de reynar, y no el hombre: asi discurrían aquellos sabios. Despues el Presidente propuso tres questões, cuya resoluzion se habia de formar segun las leyes de Minos.

Fué la questão primera. ¿Quién es entre los hombres el mas libre? Algunos respondieron, que el Rey, que tiene absoluto dominio en el pueblo, y ha vencido á sus enemigos en todas partes. Otros fueron de parecer que un hombre sin muger, y que discurre toda su vida por diferentes tierras, sin estar sujeto jamas á las leyes de alguna. Discurrieron otros, que un bárbaro, que viviendo del fruto de la caza en medio de las selvas, no es dependiente de algun gobierno, ni de alguna necesidad. Creyeron otros ser uno, que poco ántes hubiera sido libre del cautiverio; porque saliendo de él, goza mas que qualquiera otro de la dulzura de la libertad. Finalmente, otros se declararon por aquel que muere; porque con la muerte se libra de todo mal, y porque ningún hombre tiene poder sobre él en el punto que acaba de espirar.

« When my opinion was demanded, I was in no doubt what to answer, because I remembered what had been often told me by Mentor. « The most free of all men, » said I, « is he whose freedom slavery itself cannot take away : he, and he only, is free in every country and in every condition, who fears the gods, and whose fear has no other object. In other words, he only is truly free, over whom fear and desire have no power, and who is subject only to reason and the gods ». The fathers looked upon each other with a smile, and were surprised to find my answer exactly the same with that of Minos.

« The second question was — « Who is most unhappy ? » To this every one gave such an answer as was suggested by his fancy. One said, that the most unhappy man was he who was without money, health, and reputation. Another said, it was he that had no friend. Some imagined none could be so wretched as those who had degenerate and ungrateful children. But a native of Lesbos, a man celebrated for wisdom, said, that the most unhappy of all men was he that thought himself so ; because unhappiness depends much less upon adversity than impatience, and unfortunate events derive all their power to afflict from the minds of those to whom they happen.

The assembly heard this opinion with a shout of applause ; and every one believed that, in this question, the Lesbian would be declared victor. But, my opinion being asked, I formed my answer upon the maxims of Mentor. « The most unhappy of all men, » said I, « is a king, who believes he shall become happy by rendering others miserable : his wretchedness is doubled by his ignorance ; for, as he does not know whence it proceeds, he can apply no remedy ; he is, indeed, afraid to know, and he suffers a crowd of sycophants to surround him, that keep truth at a distance : he is a slave to his own passions, and an utter stranger to his duty ; he has never tasted the pleasure of doing good, nor been warmed to sensibility by the charms of virtue ; he is wretched, but the wretchedness that he suffers he deserves ; and his mi-

Quando me tocó hablar , no tuve gran trabajo en responder ; porque no me habia olvidado de lo que muchas veces habia oido á Mentor. El mas libre entre todos los hombres , respondí , es aquel que puede serlo en la misma esclavitud. En qualquiera pais , en qualquier condicion que se halle , es muy libre , con tal que tema á los dioses , y no tenga miedo á otros que á ellos solos. En una palabra , el hombre verdaderamente libre , es aquel que esento de qualquiera temor , y de qualquier deseo , no está sujeto sino á los dioses , y á la propia razon. Los ancianos sonriéndose , se miraron unos á otros , y se maravillaron , viendo que mi respuesta era puntualmente la del Rey Minos.

Propuso despues la segunda quëstion en estos términos : ¿ Qual el mas infeliz entre todos los hombres ? Cada uno decia aquello que le ocurría. Decia uno , que un hombre sin riquezas , sin salud y sin honra. Otro , que un hombre sin amigos. Otros , que quien tiene hijos ingratos , é indignos de su nacimiento. Habia venido un sabio de la isla de Lesbos , el qual dixo : El mas infeliz hombre de todos es aquel que se presume serlo ; porque ménos depende la infelicidad de las cosas que se padecen , que de la impaciencia , con que se aumenta le desgracia propia.

Alzó entónces el grito todo el congreso para aplaudirle , y cada uno creyó que sobre esta quëstion habia de obtener la victoria el de Lesbos. No obstante , me pidiéron mi parecer , y conforme á las máximas de Mentor , respondí de esta suerte : El mas infeliz de todos es un Rey , que se figura ser afortunado , haciendo desdichados á los otros hombres. Por razon de su ceguedad es al doble infeliz ; porque no conociendo su miseria , no se puede de ella librar , ántes teme conocerla. No puede la verdad hacerse paso á él entre el confuso tropél de los aduladores. Tiranizanle sus pasiones , y no conoce su obligacion : no ha gustado nunca el deleite del obrar bien , ni experimentado la dulzura de la virtud : es infeliz , y merece muy bien el serlo. Su miseria se aumenta cada dia , corre á la perdicion , y se aprestan los dioses á castigarle con

sery, however great, is perpetually increasing: he rushes down the precipice of perdition, and the gulf of everlasting punishment receives him.» The assembly attested my victory over the Lesbian, and the judges declared that I had expressed the sense of Minos.

« The third question was — « Which of the two ought to be preferred, a king who was invincible in war; or a king who, without any experience in war, could administer civil government with great wisdom, in a time of peace? » The majority determined this question in favour of the warrior; « For skill to govern in a time of peace, » said they, « will be of but little use, if the king cannot defend his country in a time of war, since he will himself be divested of his authority, and his people will become slaves to the enemy ». Others preferred the pacific prince; because as he would have more to fear from a war, he would be more careful to avoid it. Some answered, that the achievements of a conqueror would not only increase his own glory, but the glory of his people, to whom he would subjugate many nations; but that, under a pacific government, quiet and security would degenerate into cowardice and sloth. My sentiments were then asked, and I answered thus.

Although he who can only govern either in peace or in war is but half a king; yet the prince who by his sagacity, can discover the merit of others, and can defend his country when it is attacked, if not in person, yet by his generals, is, in my opinion, to be preferred before him who knows no art but that of war: a prince whose genius is entirely military, will levy endless wars to extend his dominions, and ruin his people to add a new title to his name. If the nation which he now governs is unhappy, what is it to them how many more he conquers! A foreign war, long continued, cannot fail of producing disorder at home: the manners of the victors themselves become corrupt during the general confusion. How much has Greece suffered by the conquest of Troy? She was more than ten years deprived of her kings; and wherever the flame of war is kindled, the laws are violated with impunity, agriculture is neglected, and the sciences

eternas penas. Confesó toda la asamblea que quedaba de mí vencido el sabio Lesbio ; y declararon los viejos , que mi dictámen era conforme al de Minos.

Por tercera cuestión se preguntó : ¿ Quál de dos cosas se debía preferir , un Rey conquistador , é invencible en la guerra , ó un Rey sin experiencia de este ministerio , pero apto á gobernar sabiamente los pueblos en la paz ? La mayor parte respondió , que debía anteponerse el Rey invencible en la guerra. ¿ De qué sirve , decían estos , tener un Rey , que sepa bien gobernar los súbditos en paz , si no sabe defender el estado , quando ocurre la guerra ? Venceranlo los enemigos , y le harán esclavos sus pueblos. Llevaban otros por el contrario , que era mejor un Rey pacífico ; porque temeria la guerra , y emplearia para estorvarla toda su industria. Decían otros , que un Rey conquistador trabajaria no ménos por la gloria del pueblo que gobernaba , que por la propia suya ; y haria á sus vasallos dueños de las otras naciones , quando los tendria un Rey pacífico en una pereza afrentosa. Quisiéron escuchar mi parecer , y le declaré así.

No es mas que medio Rey , quien no sabe gobernar sino solamente en la paz , ó solamente en la guerra ; y no es habil para regir su pueblo en estos dos estados. Mas si se compara un Rey , que no es experto sino en la guerra , con un Rey sabio , que sin saber el arte militar , es capaz , quando importa , de mantenerla por medio de sus Generales , me parece que se ha de preferir al primero con notable ventaja el segundo. Un Rey totalmente inclinado á la guerra , querria siempre hacerla , para dilatar su dominio , y arruinar los pueblos , ¿ Qué importa á estos , que su Rey sujete á las demas naciones , siendo infelices todos los que él gobierna ? Fuera de que , las guerras prolixas atraen siempre muchos desórdenes : se descomponen los mismos vencedores en la confusion de esos tiempos. ¿ Veis lo que cuesta á la Grecia haber triunfado de Troya ? Ha estado por mas de diez años sin Rey que la gobierne. Mientras todo se altera por causa de la

are forgotten. The best prince, when he has a war to sustain, is compelled to the same conduct which disgraces the worst, to tolerate licentiousness, and employ villany in his service. How many daring profligates are punished in a time of peace, whom it is necessary to reward during the disorders of war! No nation was ever governed by a conqueror that did not suffer by his ambition. The victorious and the vanquished are involved almost in the same ruin, while the king grows giddy amidst the tumult of a triumph. As he is utterly ignorant of the arts of peace, he knows not how to derive any popular advantages from a successful war; he is like a man that not only defends his own field, but forcibly takes possession of his neighbours, yet can neither plough nor sow, and consequently reaps no harvest from either: he seems born not to diffuse happiness among his subjects, by a wise and equitable government, but to fill the world with violence, tumult, and desolation.

« As to the pacific prince, it must, indeed, be confessed, that he is not qualified for conquest; or, in other words, he is not born to harass his people by perpetual hostilities, in a restless attempt to subjugate others, over whom he can have no equitable right; but if he is perfectly qualified for peaceful government, these very qualifications will secure his subjects against the encroachments of an enemy: his justice, moderation, and quietness, render him a good neighbour; he engages in no enterprise that can interrupt the peace subsisting between him and other states; and he fulfils all his engagements with a religious exactness: he is, therefore, regarded by his allies rather with love than fear, and they trust him with unlimited confidence. If any restless, haughty, and ambitious power should molest him, all the neighbouring princes will interpose in his behalf; because from him they apprehend no attempt against their own quiet, but have every thing to fear from his enemy. His steady justice, impartiality, and pu-
guerra,

guerra, desfallecen las leyes, la agricultura y todas las artes. Los Príncipes mejores mientras que se ven obligados á mantener la guerra, lo son para tolerar el mayor mal de todos, que es la licencia, y el servirse del ministerio de hombres ruines. ¿Quántos facinorosos hay, que serian castigados en la paz, y cuya audacia es menester premiar en los desórdenes de la guerra? Jamas una nacion ha tenido un Rey conquistador, que no haya sido obligada á tolerar muchos males, que la soberbia de él mismo le ha ocasionado. Un Conquistador embriagado de su misma gloria, arruina á casi toda su nacion vencedora, no ménos que á las vencidas. El Príncipe que no tiene las qualidades precisas para la paz, no puede hacer que gusten sus vasallos los frutos de una guerra dichosamente conducida al fin. Es como un hombre que defiende su campo contra el del vecino, y usurpa el del vecino mismo; pero no sabe arar, ni sembrar, para lograr la cosecha de ambos. Un hombre de este caracter, parece que ha nacido para destruir, asolar y trastornar el mundo, no para hacer feliz á su pueblo con un prudente gobierno.

Ahora vamos al Rey pacífico. Es verdad que no es apto para conquistar nuevos Reynos; esto es, que no tiene ánimo para turbar la quietud del suyo, queriendo sojuzgar otros pueblos, que no le están sujetos por justicia: pero tambien es cierto, ser á propósito para gobernar como padre. Tiene todas las calidades que le son puntualmente necesarias para asegurar sus vasallos de la invasion de los enemigos; y hé aquí de qué manera. El es justo, moderado, y tratable con sus vecinos: no emprehende cosa alguna contra ellos, que pueda perturbar el sosiego, y es fiel en mantener las alianzas; por esto sus coligados le aman, mas no le temen, y confian de él enteramente. Si hay algun vecino inquieto, altivo, y ambicioso, todos los Reyes confinantes le temen; mas no tienen rezelo alguno del Rey pacífico, y se unen con él, para que ninguno le oprima. Su entereza, su lealtad, y su moderacion le hacen árbitro de los Estados que lindan con el suyo; y mientras que aquel, que aspira á nuevas conquistas, es odioso á todos los otros Príncipes, y

blic faith, render him the arbiter of all the kingdoms that surround his own : and while the enterprizes of ambition make the warrior odious, and the common danger unites the world against him, a glory, superior to that of conquest, comes unlooked for to the friend of peace, on whom the eyes of every other potentate are turned with reverence and affection, as the father, and the guardian of them all. These are his advantages abroad.

Those at home are yet more considerable. If he is qualified to govern in peace, it follows that he must govern by the wisest laws : he must restrain parade and luxury ; he must suppress every art which can only gratify vice ; and he must encourage those which supply the necessaries of life, especially agriculture, to which the principal attention of his people must be turned. Whatever is necessary will then become abundant ; and the people, being inured to labour, simple in their manners, habituated to live upon a little, and therefore easily gaining a subsistence from the field, will multiply without end. This kingdom, then, will soon become extremely populous ; and the people will be healthful, vigorous, and hardy ; not effeminated by luxury, but veterans in virtue ; not slavishly attached to a life of voluptuous indolence but free, in a magnanimous contempt of death, and chusing rather to die than to lose the many privileges which they enjoy under a prince who reigns only as the substitute of reason. If a neighbouring conqueror should attack such a people as this, he might probably find them unskilful, in marking out a camp, forming the order of battle, and managing the unwieldy engines of destruction that are used, in a siege ; but he would find them invincible by their numbers, their courage, their patience of fatigue, and their habit of enduring hardship, the impetuosity of their attack, and the perseverance of that virtue which disappointment cannot subdue. Besides, if their prince is not himself qualified to command his forces, he may substitute such persons as he knows to be equal to the trust, and use them as instruments, without giving up his authority ; succours may be obtained from his

expuesto de continuo á sus ligas , tiene estotro la gloria de ser como el padre , y tutor de todos los demas.

Estas son sus ventajas ácia fuera ; pero son mucho mas plausibles las que logra dentro de su Reyno ; porque él es propio para gobernar como padre , y sabe ciertamente gobernar con las leyes mas sabias á sus vasallos. El quita el fausto , la afeminacion , y las artes , que no sirven , sino para lisonjear las malas costumbres : hace que se cultiven las que son de provecho para las verdaderas urgencias de la vida : aplica principalmente sus súbditos á la agricultura : y con eso consigue que se hagan abundantes de las cosas precisas. Asi el pueblo laborioso , sencillo en sus costumbres , acostumbrado á vivir parcamente , y que facilmente gana la comida con cultivar sus tierras , se multiplica infinitamente. Veréis en tal Reynado un pueblo innumerable , sano , vigoroso , robusto ; no enervado con los placeres , sino exercitado en la virtud : que no se ata al recreo de una vida , que pasa entre la pereza , y los gustos : que sabe no hacer caso de la muerte : que ántes eligiria morir que no perder aquella libertad , que alcanza debaxo de un Rey sabio , el qual no reyna sino para que reyne la razon. Si le invade el Reyno un Conquistador confinante , no lo hallará por suerte acostumbrado á acampar , á ordenarse , ó á sitiár ciudades ; mas lo hallará invencible por su muchedumbre , por su valor para la tolerancia de los trabajos , por el uso de sufrir la pobreza , por su denuedo para las batallas , y por una virtud , que no puede ser vencida aun de los mismos acontecimientos contrarios. A mas , que si no es el Rey bastante experimentado para mandar sus exércitos en persona , dará el mando á quien fuera capaz del desempeño , y se sabrá servir de él sin menoscabo de su autoridad. En semejante urgencia será ayudado de sus coligados : sus vasallos

allies ; his subjects will rather perish than become the slaves of injustice and oppression : and the gods themselves will fight in his behalf. Thus will the pacific prince be sustained , when his danger is most imminent.

And therefore I conclude that , though his ignorance in the art of war is an imperfection in his character , since it disables him to execute one of the principal duties of his station , the chastisement of those who invade his dominion , or injure his people ; yet he is infinitely superior to a king who is wholly unacquainted with civil government , and knows no art but that of war. »

« I perceived , that many persons in the assembly did not approve the opinion that I had been labouring to maintain ; for the greater part of mankind , dazzled by the false lustre of victories and triumphs , prefer the tumult and shew of successful hostilities to the quiet simplicity of peace , and the intrinsic advantages of good government : the judges , however , declared , that I had spoken the sentiments of Minos.

And the president cried out -- « The oracle of Apollo known to all Crete , is fulfilled. » Minos inquired of the god how long his posterity should govern by the laws which he had established ; and he was answered -- « Thy posterity shall cease to reign when a stranger shall establish the reign of thy laws. We feared that some foreigner would make a conquest of our island ; but the misfortunes of Idomeneus , and the wisdom of the son of Ulysses , who , of all mortals best understands the laws of Minos , have disclosed the true sense of the oracle. Why , then , do we delay to crown him whom the gods have appointed to be our king ? »

END OF THE FIFTH BOOK.

querran ántes perder la vida , que pasar al dominio de otro Rey violento , é injusto , y pelear por él los mismos dioses. Ved qué modos tendrá en medio de los mayores riesgos para salir á salvo de la opresion de sus males.

Concluyo pues que el Rey pacífico , que no sabe hacer guerra , es imperfecto Rey , pues no sabe cumplir una de sus mayores obligaciones , que es vencer sus contrarios ; pero añado , que es muchísimo mejor que un Rey conquistador , que no tiene las calidades necesarias para reynar en paz , y no es hábil para otra cosa sino para la guerra.

Ví muchos en la asamblea , que no se podian resolver á aprobar mi dictamen ; pero declaráronles los ancianos que habia hablado en sentir de Minos.

Entonces el principal de ellos dixo en bien alta voz : Yo veo cumplido el oráculo del dios Apolo , que nadie ignora de los de nuestra Isla. Minos pidió á los dioses qué tiempo reynaría su descendencia , segun las leyes , que el poco ántes habia establecido. Los tuyos , le respondió Apolo , dexarán de reynar , quando entre en una isla un extranjero , para hacer que reynen las leyes. Temíamos , que algun extranjero viniera á sojuzgar con las armas á Creta ; pero el infortunio de Idomenéo ; y la sabiduría del hijo de Ulises , que entiende las leyes de Minos mas perfectamente que los demas , nos dan bien claro á ver el sentido en que habló el oráculo. ¿ Pues qué nos detenemos en coronar á aquel que el destino nos da por nuestro Rey ?

FIN DEL LIBRO QUINTO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK VI.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS relates, that he refused the royalty of Crete to return to Ithaca; that he proposed Mentor, but that Mentor also refused to be king: that the Cretans then pressing Mentor to appoint a king for them, he related to them what he heard of the virtues of Aristodemus, whom they immediately proclaimed: that Mentor and Telemachus having then embarked for Ithaca, Neptune, to gratify the resentment of Venus, shipwrecked them upon the island of Calypso, where the goddess received them with hospitality and kindness,

« **T**HE sages immediately went out of the consecrated grove; and the chief of them, taking me by the hand, declared to the people who were waiting impatiently for the decision, that the prize had been decreed to me. The words were no sooner uttered, than the dead silence of expectation was followed by an universal shout; every one cried out -- « Let the son of Ulysses, a second Minos, be our king! » and the echoes of the neighbouring mountain repeated the acclamation.

« I waited a few moments, and then made a sign with my hand that I desired to be heard. In this interval Mentor whispered me -- « Wilt thou renounce thy country? Can ambition obliterate the remembrance of Penelope, who longs for thy return as the last object of her hope: and alienate thy heart from the great Ulysses, whom the gods have resolved to restore to Ithaca? » — These words roused every tender passion in my bosom: and the fond desire of royalty was instantly absorbed in the love of my parents and my country.

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO VI.

SUMARIO.

QUIEREN elegir á Telémaco por Rey, y está para admitirlo. Acuérdale Mentor de que se halla en pais extraño. Póncele delante á su patria, á Ulises y á Penélope. Sigue Telémaco la razon de Mentor. Pídenle los de Creta que les escoja Rey: él escoge á Mentor: éste se excusa, explicando los riesgos de la corona. Eligen á Azaél, que tambien se excusa. Mentor les descubre un viejo Cretés, que acepta la corona con algunos pactos. El nuevo Rey da á Mentor, y á Telémaco un baxel, para volverse á Itaca. Parten ambos de Creta. Nueva tempestad en el mar. Aportan á la Isla de Calipso, habiendo naufragado. Acaba la narracion de Telémaco, y continúa la historia.

AL punto los ancianos salieron del recinto del sagrado bosque, y tomándose de la mano el principal de todos, hizo saber al pueblo ya impaciente por entender la decision pendiente que yo habia vencido á todos los demas. Apenas él acabo de hablar, se oyó un rumor confuso de todo aquel concurso: cada uno gritaba por desahogar su gozo, y volviéron el eco de las voces, no solo la rivera, sino tambien todas las montañas vecinas, en las cuales se oyó distintamente: El hijo de Ulises, parecido á Minos, el es Rey de Creta.

Detúveme un momento: hice despues señal para pedir silencio, y que me escucháran; entre tanto Mentor me decia al oido: ¿Luego vos renunciáis á vuestra Patria? ¿Acaso la ambicion de reynar hos hará olvidar á Penélope, que os aguarda, como á su postrera esperanza, y al grande Ulises, que habian decretado los dioses restituiros? Estas palabras me atravesáron el corazon, y me quitáron la gana de reynar.

In the mean time, the multitude was again become motionless and silent ; and I addressed them in these terms : « Illustrious Cretans ! I am not worthy the dignity which you offer. The oracle, of which you have been reminded, does indeed express, that the sovereignty of Crete shall depart from the race of Minos, when a stranger shall establish the dominion of his laws ; but it does not say, that this stranger shall be king. I am willing to believe that I am the stranger foretold by the oracle, and that I have accomplished the prediction ; fortune has cast me upon this island ; I have discovered the true sense of the laws of Minos ; and I wish that my explanation may contribute to join them in the sovereignty with the man whom your choice shall appoint to so important a trust. As for me, I prefer my country, the obscure and inconsiderable island of Ithaca, to the hundred cities of Crete, with all their opulence and glory : permit me, therefore, to wander wherever the fates shall have marked my course. If I have contended in your sports, I was no prompted by a desire to govern you ; but only to obtain your esteem and your pity, that you might the more readily afford me the means of returning to the place of my birth ; for I would rather obey my father Ulysses, and comfort Penelope my mother, than govern all the nations upon the earth. You see, O Cretans ! the secret recesses of my heart : I am compelled to leave you ; but death only can put an end to my gratitude ; your interest shall never be less dear to me than my own honour ; and I will remember you with affection : till death shall efface the last idea from my mind. »

« I had scarce finished the last sentence, before there arose, from the innumerable multitude that surrounded me, a deep hoarse murmur, like the sound of waves that are broken against each other in a storm. Some questioned whether I was not a god under the appearance of a man ; others affirmed that they had seen me in foreign countries, and knew me to be Telemachus ; and many cried out that I should be com-

Entre tanto un profundo silencio de todo aquel concurso me dió ocasion para hablar de esta manera : No merezco , ilustres Cretenses , mandaros. El oráculo , que poco ha se acordó , es verdad que declara que la estirpe de Minos dexará de reynar quando entre en esta isla un extrangero , y hará reynar en ella las leyes del prudentísimo Rey ; pero no ha dicho que él mismo deberá reynar. Quiero creer que soy yo el extrangero de quien habló el oráculo : he cumplido la predicción , he venido á esta isla , he declarado el sentido verdadero de las leyes , y deseo que sirva mi explicacion para hacerlas reynar unidas con aquel que escogiereis por Rey. Por lo que mira á mí , yo antepongo mi patria , la isla pequeña de Itaca , á las cien ciudades de Creta , á la gloria , y á las riquezas de este bellísimo Reyno. Dexadme seguir mi destino. Si he combatido en vuestros juegos , no lo he hecho por esperanza de reynar aquí ; lo he hecho por ganar vuestro aprecio , y vuestra compasion : lo he hecho para que me ayuderais á volver á mi patria sin dilacion. Quiero ántes obedecer á mi padre Ulises , y consolar á mi madre Penélope , que mandar todo el Universo. Veis , ó Cretenses , abiertamente todo mi corazon : es preciso dexaros yo ; pero mi gratitud no podra fenecer sino conmigo. Si , hasta el último aliento Telémaco amará á los Cretenses , y se interesará en su gloria como en la propia.

Luego que hube acabado de hablar , se notó en todo aquel concurso un sordo murmullo , semejante al que hacen en el mar las ondas , que en una tempestad hieren unas con otras. ¿ Es este por ventura , decian unos , algun dios en figura de hombre ? Otros aseguraban que me habian visto en otros países , y me conocian. Gritaban otros , que era menester obligarme á ser Rey. Volví finalmente á hablar , y no sabiendo

pelled to ascend the throne of Idomeneus. I therefore again signified my intention to speak ; and they were again silent in a moment, no knowing but that I was now about to accept what before I had refused.

« Permit me, » said I, « O Cretans ! to tell you my thoughts without disguise. I believe you to be the wisest of all people ; and yet there is one important distinction which I think you have not made ; your choice ought not to select the man who is best acquainted with the theory of your laws ; but he who, with the most steady virtue, has reduced them to practice. I am, as yet, but a youth, and consequently without experience, and subject to the tyranny of impetuous passions : I am in that state which renders it more fit for me to learn, by obedience, how to command hereafter, than how to practise a science which is at once so difficult and important. Do not, therefore, seek a man who, in any exercises, either of the mind or of the body, has conquered others, but one who has achieved the conquest of himself : seek a man who has the laws of Minos written upon his heart ; and whose life has illustrated every precept by an example : let your choice be determined, not by what he says, but what he has done. »

« The venerable fathers, being much pleased with these sentiments, and hearing the applause of the assembly grow still louder, addressed me in these terms : « Since the gods no longer permit us to hope that you will reign over us, assist us, at least, in the choice of a king who will establish the reign of our laws. Is any man known to you, who, upon a throne ; will be content with this equitable though limited authority. « There is a man, said I, « to whom I owe whatever merit I possess, whose wisdom has spoken by my lips, and whose conversation suggested every sentiment which you have approved. »

While I was yet speaking, the eyes of the whole assembly were turned upon Mentor, whom I took by the hand, and presented to them ; at the same time, I related the protection which he had afforded to my infancy, the dangers from which he had delivered

si quería tal vez aceptar la dignidad que habia ántes rehusado , todo el mundo calló. Hábléles pues así :

Permitid , ó Cretenses , que os diga lo que pienso. Vosotros sois la gente mas sabia del universo ; pero la prudencia requiere una prevencion , en que no advertis quanto yo he podido notar. Debeis elegir para vuestro Rey no á quien mejor discurre sobre las leyes , sino á aquel que las pone en práctica con virtud constante. Yo soy jóven , y consiguientemente sin experiencia , expuesto á la violencia de las pasiones , y mas en estado de obedecer , instruyendome ahora para mandar despues algun dia , que no de mandar al presente. No busqueis pues á un hombre que haya vencido á otros en los juegos , y les haya excedido en el ánimo , y en el vigor del cuerpo , sino que se haya vencido á sí mismo. Buscad á un hombre que tenga vuestras leyes escritas en el corazon , y cuya vida sea una continua práctica de esas leyes. No sean sus palabras , sino sus obras , las que os muevan para elegirle.

Habiendo los ancianos tenido un gran placer de oir este discurso , y viendo que el aplauso iba de aumento siempre en el concurso , me dixéron así : Supuesto que los dioses nos quitan la esperanza de veros reynar en nosotros , ayudadnos por lo ménos á hallar un Rey , que haga reynar nuestras leyes. ¿ Conoceis vos á alguno que pueda gobernar con tal moderacion ? Conozco á un hombre , les dixe al mismo instante , de quien yo he aprendido lo que me ha adquirido vuestra estimacion : su sabiduria es , y no la mia , la que os ha hablado , y él es quien me ha inspirado las respuestas , que me habeis oido.

Al mismo tiempo miró todo el concurso fixamente á Mentor , á quien yo les mostraba , habiéndole tomado por la mano. Contaba yo el cuidado que habia tenido en mi niñez , los riesgos de que él me habia preservado , y las desgracias que me habian acontecido

me, and the calamities that fell upon me when I rejected his counsel.

Mentor had, till now, stood unnoticed among the crowd; for his habit was plain and negligent, his countenance was modest, he spake little, and had an air of coldness and reserve: but as soon as he became the object of attention, a dignity and firmness, not to be described, were discovered in his countenance; it was remarked, that his eyes were peculiarly piercing; and every motion expressed uncommon vigour and activity. Some questions were immediately proposed; his answers excited universal admiration; and the kingdom was immediately offered him: the kingdom, however, he refused without the least emotion; and said, that he preferred the sweets of a private life to the splendour of royalty; that the best princes were almost necessarily unhappy, because they were seldom able to effect the good which they designed; and were often betrayed by the circumvention of sycophants, to the perpetration of evils which they intended to prevent. « If servitude, » continued he, « is a state of wretchedness, there can be no happiness in royalty; for royalty is nothing more than servitude in disguise: a king is always dependent upon those by whom he must enforce his commands. Happy are those to whom the toil of government is not a duty; a duty which implies the sacrifice of private liberty to public advantage; which our country only can claim, and which those alone who are invested with supreme authority can owe! »

« The Cretans were at first struck silent with astonishment; but, at length, they asked Mentor what person he would advise them to chuse. « I would advise you, » said Mentor, « to chuse a man who well knows the people he is to govern; and who is also sufficiently acquainted with government to fear it as a state of difficulty and danger: he that desires royalty does not know the duties which royalty requires; and by him who does not know them they can never be fulfilled; such a man desires regal authority only to gratify himself; but regal authority should be entrusted with him only who would not accept it but for the love of others. »

luego que habia alguna vez dexado de seguir sus consejos.

Al principio no habian reparado en Mentor por su vestido llano y desaliñado, por su porte modesto, por su silencio casi continuo, y por el ayre grave, y honesto de su semblante: mas quando se aplicaron á mirarle, se descubrió en su rostro un no sé qué de intrépido, y sublime. Observaron la viveza de aquellos ojos, y el brio: con que haciéndole hasta de las acciones mas mínimas preguntas, muchas cosas les admiraron, y resolvieron hacerlo Rey. El se excusó de esto sin turbacion, y dixo que anteponia la dulzura de una vida privada, al esplendor de la grandeza real: que los mejores Reyes estaban siempre expuestos a la desgracia de no hacer casi nunca las acciones buenas que querian hacer: y que hacian las malas frecuentemente, engañados de los aduladores, siendo así que no tenian voluntad de hacerlas. Añadió que si la servidumbre es miserable, no es ménos miserable la dignidad real, porque es una servidumbre disfrazada. Quando es un hombre Rey, decia, depende de todos aquellos de quienes necesita para que le obedezcan. ¡Feliz aquel que no está obligado á mandar! No debemos sino á la patria sola, quando ella nos confia el empleo de gobernarla, el sacrificio grande de nuestra libertad, á fin de trabajar por el bien de todos.

Entónces los Cretenses, no pudiéndose recobrar del asombro, le preguntaron: á quién ellos deberian escoger por Rey. A un hombre, respondió, que vosotros conozcais bien; porque importará que os gobierne, y que tema gobernaros. Quien desea la dignidad real, no la conoce: ¿Como pues cumplirá con sus obligaciones no conociéndolas? Búscala él para sí: vosotros habeis de buscar á un hombre, que la apetezca por vuestro amor.

« The whole assembly still wondering to see two strangers refuse a kingdom, which so many others had sought, began to inquire with whom they had come to Crete; and Nausicrates, who had conducted us from the port to the circus, immediately pointed to Hazael, with whom Mentor and myself had sailed from the island of Cyprus: but their wonder, however great, became still greater, when they understood that he, who had just refused to be the sovereign of Crete, had been lately the slave of Hazael; that Hazael, struck with the wisdom and virtue of his slave, now considered him as his monitor and his friend; and had been urged, merely by his desire of knowledge, to travel from Damascus in Syria to Crete, that he might acquaint himself with the laws of Minos.

« The sages then addressed themselves to Hazael — « We do not dare, » said they; « to offer you the crown which has been refused by Mentor, because we believe the sentiments of both to be the same: you despise mankind too much to rule them; nor is there any thing in wealth or in power that, to you, would compensate the toils of government. » Hazael replied — « Think not, O Cretans! that I despise mankind, or that I am insensible to the glory that rewards the labour by which they are rendered virtuous and happy; but this labour, however glorious, is attended with pain and danger; and the external glitter of regal pomp captivates only the foolish and the vain. Life is short, and greatness rather irritates than gratifies desire: it is one of those deceitful acquisitions which I am come so far, not to obtain, but to despise. Farewel! I have no wish but to return once more to retirement and tranquillity, where my soul may feast on knowledge with divine reflection, and where that hope of immortality which is derived from virtue may afford me comfort under the infirmities of old age; or, if I have a wish besides this, it is never to be separated from the two persons who now stand before you. »

« The Cretans then cried out to Mentor — « Tell us, O wisest and greatest of mortals! tell us who shall

Todos los Cretenses quedaron extraordinariamente admirados, viendo á dos forasteros que rehusaban el timbre de una corona solicitada de tantos otros. Quisiéron saber con quién habia llegado; y Nausicrates, que nos conduxo desde el puerto al circo donde se celebraban los juegos, les señaló á Azaél, con quien Mentor, é yo habiamos aportado de Chipre. Y fué mucho mayor su admiracion, quando supiéron que Mentor habia sido esclavo de Azaél: que movido Azaél de la prudencia, y de la virtud de su esclavo, lo habia hecho su consejero, y mayor amigo: que este esclavo, ya puesto en libertad, era el mismo que poco antes no habia querido ser Rey; y que Azaél habia navegado desde Damasco, para instruirse en las leyes de Minos: tanto su corazon se hallaba enamorado de la virtud.

Los ancianos entónces dixéron á Azaél; no osamos á rogaros que nos gobernéis, porque entendemos, que vuestras máximas concuerdan con las de Mentor. Despreciais á los hombres demasiado para querer tomar el trabajo de gobernarlos; y por lo demas sois sobrado desprendido de las riquezas, y del esplendor de la corona, para determinaros á comprarle con los trabajos, que van juntos con el gobierno de los pueblos. Azaél respondió: No creais, ó Cretenses, que desprecio á los hombres, no: yo sé quán glorioso sea el trabajar para hacerlos virtuosos y felices; pero está este trabajo lleno de peligros, y es falso el esplendor con que brilla, no siendo capaz de deslumbrar sino almas ambiciosas. La vida es corta: las grandezas mas sirven de irritar las pasiones, que de satisfacerlas: no he venido yo de tan lejos á adquirir estos falsos bienes, sino á aprender á vivir sin cuidados. No pienso en otra cosa, que en volver á una vida pacífica, y retirada, en la qual la sabiduría alimente mi corazon; y en que todas las esperanzas de una vida mejor despues de acabada la presente, las quales nacen de la virtud, me consuelen en las tristezas de mi trabajosa vejez.

Finalmente los Cretenses gritáron, hablando, con Mentor: Decidnos, ó el mas sabio, ó el mas grande

be our king! We will not suffer thee to depart till thou hast directed this important choice.» Mentor immediately answered — «As I stood among the crowd of spectators, whom the sports had drawn together, I perceived a man who, in the midst of all that tumult and impatience, appeared recollected and sedate; he was still vigorous, though advanced in years: and, upon inquiring who he was, I soon learned that his name was Aristodemus. I afterwards heard some that stood near tell him, that his two sons were among the candidates; but he expressed no satisfaction at the news; he said, that he loved one of them too well to wish him involved in the dangers of royalty; and that he had too great a regard for his country to wish it should be governed by the other. I immediately conceived, that the old man loved one of his sons, who had virtue, with a rational affection; and that he was too wise to indulge the other in vicious irregularities. My curiosity being now greatly increased, I inquired more particularly into the circumstances of his life; and one of the citizens gave me this account: «Aristodemus,» said he, «bore arms in the service of his country for many years, and is almost covered with scars, but his abhorrence of insincerity and flattery rendered him disagreeable to Idomeneus, who therefore left him at Crete when he went to the siege of Troy: and, indeed, he was kept in perpetual anxiety by a man who gave him such counsel as he could not but approve, yet wanted resolution to follow: he was, besides, jealous of the glory which he knew Aristodemus would soon acquire, the king, therefore, forgetting the services of his soldier, left him here exposed to the distresses of poverty, and to the scorn of the brutal and the sordid, who consider nothing as merit but riches. With poverty, however, Aristodemus was contented, and lived cheerfully in a remote corner of the island, where he cultivated a few acres of ground with his own hands. In this employment he was assisted by one of his sons, whom he loved with great tenderness; and labour and frugality soon made them happy in the possession of whatever is necessary to a life

entre todos los hombres , decidnos , pues ; ¿ á quién podrémos elegir por Rey ? No os dexarémos partir , sin que antes nos digais la eleccion que debemos hacer. Miéntas estaba , respondió Mentor , entre la multitud de los que veian los juegos , he reparado un hombre que no tenía en ellos mucho cuidado. Es este un viejo de mucha robustez : he preguntado quién es , y me han respondido , que se llama Aristódemo. He oido despues que le dixéron , que se hallaban dos hijos suyos entre los combatientes , y él no ha mostrado tener algun consuelo ; antes ha respondido , que al uno de ellos no deseaba los riesgos de la corona , y que amaba demasiado á su patria , para venir él bien en que reynara el otro. De esto he comprehendido , que ese hombre ama con amor racional al uno de sus hijos , que será sin duda virtuoso , y que no adula al otro , ni á sus desórdenes. Aumentándose mi curiosidad , he inquirido la vida del anciano , y uno de vuestros ciudadanos me ha respondido así : Ese hombre ha militado largo tiempo , y está lleno de heridas ; pero su sincera virtud enemiga de la adulacion , le hizo desagradable á Idomenéo. De aqui procedió , que el Rey no se sirviera de él en el sitio de Troya ; porque temió á un hombre , que sin duda le hubiera dado sabios consejos : los quales no podia acabarse de resolver á seguir ; y porque tambien tuvo zelos de la gloria que se hubiera adquirido. Olvidóse muy presto de todos los servicios que le habia hecho , y lo dexó en Creta pobre , y sin estimacion de los hombres , que no tienen en precio sino las riquezas. Contento sin embargo con su pobreza , vive alegre en un pueblo poco freqüentado de la isla , donde cultiva con sus manos la tierra. Uno de sus dos hijos trabaja juntamente con él : ámanse tiernamente : son felices por su templanza , y union en el trabajo ; con que están abastecidos de lo que es necessario para el mantenimiento de una vida llana. Da el sabio viejo todo lo que le sobra á él , y á su hijo de lo preciso á los enfermos pobres de su vecindad. El es padre de todas las familias , y la infelicidad de la suya es tener otro hijo , que no ha querido practicar sus consejos. Despues que le ha sufrido largo tiempo , procurando enmendar sus vicios , al fin lo ha despedido de su compañía , y el

of rural simplicity, and something more. The old man, who was not less a philosopher than a hero, distributed this surplus among the decrepid and the sick; the youth he stimulated to industry; he exhorted the refractory, and instructed the ignorant; he was the arbitrator of every dispute, and the father of every family: in his own he considers no circumstance as unfortunate but the bad disposition of his second son, upon whom all admonition has been lost. The father, after having long endured his irregularities, in hopes that some means would be found to correct them, has at length expelled him from his family; and the son has since given himself up to the grossest sensuality; and, in the folly of his ambition, is become a candidate for the kingdom. »

« Such, O Cretans! is the account that was given me of Aristodemus; whether it is true or false, is best known to you. But, if this man is, indeed, such as he has been represented, why have public exercises been appointed, and why have so many strangers been brought together? You have, in the midst of you, a man whom you well know, and by whom you are well known; a man to whom all the arts of war are familiar, and whose courage has sustained him, not only against the spear and the dart, but the formidable assaults of poverty; who has despised the riches that are acquired by flattery, who has preferred labour to idleness, and knows the advantages which are derived to the public from agriculture; who is an enemy to parade and pomp, and whose passions are under the control of reason; for even the parental affection, which in others is so often a blind instinct, acts in him as a rational and a moral principle; since, of two sons, he cherishes one for his virtue, and renounces the other for his vices; a man who, to express all his virtue at once, is already the father of the people. In this man, therefore, O Cretans! if, indeed, you desire to be governed by the laws of Minos, behold your king! »

« The multitude immediately cried out, with one voice — « Aristodemus is, indeed, such as he has been represented; Aristodemus is worthy to be our

se ha entregado á todos los placeres , y á una soberbia loca.

Hé aquí , ó Cretenses , lo que me han referido : á vosotros toca el saber la verdad. Pero si Aristódemo es como lo describen , ¿ para qué se han hecho estos juegos ? Teneis entre vosotros un hombre que os conoce , y que vosotros conocéis : que sabe el arte militar : que ha mostrado su esfuerzo , no solo contra las flechas , y dardos , sino contra la terrible pobreza : que no ha hecho aprecio de las riquezas que se adquieren por medio de la adulacion : que ama el trabajo : que sabe cuánto ayuda la agricultura á un pueblo : que abomina el fausto : que no dexa vencerse del amor ciego de sus hijos : que ama la virtud en el uno , y reprueba el vicio del otro : en una palabra , un hombre que ya es padre de todo el pueblo. He aquí á vuestro Rey , si es verdad que teneis deseo de que reynen aquí las leyes de vuestro sabio Minos.

Verdad es , dixo todo el pueblo : Aristódemo es tal , qual vos decis , y merece reynar. Hiciéronle los ancianos llamar , y al punto fué buscado entre la muche-

king ! » The fathers of the council then ordered that he should be brought before them ; and he was immediately sought among the crowd , where he was mixed with the lowest of the people. When he was brought before the assembly , he appeared to be perfectly calm and unconcerned ; and when he was told that the people had determined to make him king , he answered , that he would not accept of the office but upon three conditions : « First ; » says he , « The throne shall be declared vacant , at the end of two years , if within that time I do not render you better than you are ; or if you shall resist the execution of the laws. Secondly , I will be still at liberty to live in a simple and frugal manner. Thirdly , my sons shall not rank above their fellow-citizens ; and after my death , shall be treated , without distinction , according to their merit. »

« As these words the air was filled with acclamations of joy ; the diadem was placed upon the head of Aristodemus by the chief of the hoary guardians of the law ; and sacrifices were offered to Jupiter and the other superior deities. Aristodemus made us presents , not with an ostentatious magnificence , but a noble simplicity. He gave to Hazael a copy of the laws of Minos , written by the legislator himself , and a collection of tracts , which contained the complete history of Crete , from the time of Saturn and the golden age : he sent on board his vessel every kind of fruit that flourishes in Crete , and is unknown in Syria ; and offered him whatever he should need.

« As we were now impatient to depart , he caused a vessel to be immediately fitted out for us ; he manned it with a great number of able rowers , and a detachment of his best troops ; and he put on board several changes of apparel , and a great plenty of provision. As soon as the vessel was ready to sail , the wind became fair for Ithaca ; but as Hazael was bound on a contrary course , it compelled him to continue at Crete. He took leave of us with great tenderness ; and embraced us as friends , with whom he was about to part for life. « The gods , » said he , « are just ; and

dumbre , en la qual se habia mezclado con los últimos de la plebe. Mostróse Aristódemo muy sossegado : dixerónle que querian hacerle Rey , y respondió de este modo : No puedo venir bien en esto sino con tres condiciones : la primera , que dexaré la corona dentro del término de dos años , si no os hago mejores de lo que sois , y si os oponéis á las leyes : la segunda , que podré libremente continuar una vida llana , y templada : la tercera , que no tendrán mis hijos algun grado , y despues de mi muerte serán tratados sin distincion , segun su mérito , como los demas ciudadanos.

A estas voces voláron por el ayre mil gritos de alegría. El principal anciano , que era el guarda de las leyes , puso á Aristódemo sobre la cabeza la diadema : despues se hicieron muchos sacrificios á Júpiter , y á todos los otros dioses. Aristódemo nos hizo muchos presentes , no con la acostumbrada magnificencia de Rey , sino con una noble llaneza. Dió á Azaél las leyes de Minos , escritas de mano del mismo Minos : dióle tambien una compilacion de toda la historia de Creta , que empezaba desde el tiempo de Saturno , y del siglo de oro : hizo poner en su baxel muchas frutas de todas especies , que son buenas en Creta , y no conocidas en Syria , y le ofreció todas las asistencias , de que podia tener necesidad.

Como nosotros teniamos precision de partir , hizo prevenir un baxel con gran número de buenos remeros y de soldados , y hizo poner en él para nosotros , vestidos , y provisiones. Al mismo instante empezó á soplar un viento favorable para vuelta de Itaca. El mismo era contrario á Azaél , y le obligó á detenerse. Viónos partir , y nos abrazó , como á amigos , que no habia de volver á ver. Los justos dioses , decia , ven nuestra amistad , fundada solamente en la virtud : algun dia volverémos á juntarnos en aquellos dichosos campos , donde tendrán las almas de los buenos , desnudas

they know that the sacred bond of our friendship is virtue; and therefore they will one day restore us to each other; and those happy fields, in which the just are said to enjoy everlasting rest, shall see our spirits reunited to part no more. O! that my ashes also might be mixed with yours! » Here his words became inarticulate, and he burst into tears; our eyes overflowed with equal tenderness and grief.

« Our parting with Aristodemus was scarce less affectionate. « As you have made me a king, » said he, « remember the dangers to which you have exposed me; and request the gods to irradiate my mind with wisdom from above, and give me power over myself, in proportion to my authority over others. May they conduct you in safety to your country, abase the insolence of your enemies, and give you the joy to behold Ulysses again upon the throne of Ithaca, supremely happy in the possession of Penelope and peace. — To thee, Telemachus, I have given a good vessel, well manned with mariners and soldiers, who may assist thee against the persecutors of thy mother. For thee, Mentor, thy wisdom is sufficient: possessing this, thou hast need of nothing; all that I can give would be superfluous; and all that I can wish is precluded. — Go, both of you, in peace; and may you long be the felicity of each other; remember Aristodemus; and if Ithaca should need the assistance of Crete, depend upon my friendship to the last hour of my life. » He then embraced us; and we could not thank him without tears.

« The wind, which now swelled our sails, promised us a happy voyage. Mount Ida already appeared but like a hillock, the shores of Crete in a short time totally disappeared, and the coast of Peloponnesus seemed to advance into the sea to meet us. But a tempest suddenly obscured the sky, and irritated the billows of the deep; night rushed upon us unawares, and death presented himself in all his terrors. It was thy awful trident, O Neptune! that agitated the ocean to its remotest shores. Venus, to revenge the contempt with which we had treated her; even in her temple at Cythera, hastened to the father of the floods, whom

de la carga de los cuerpos, una paz inmortal. Allí veremos á nuestras almas juntas, para no separarse jamas. ¡O si de alguna forma pudieran mis cenizas, y las vuestras sepultarse juntas! Diciéndole estas palabras, derramaba arroyos de lágrimas, y se le ahogaba la voz entre suspiros. Nosotros no llorábamos ménos, y en su compañía partimos para el baxel.

Aristódemo entónces nos habló de esta forma : Vos sois los que poco ha me hicisteis Rey de esta isla : acordaos de los riesgos en que me habeis puesto : rogad á los dioses que me inspiren la verdadera prudencia , á fin de que yo exceda en la moderacion , quanto excedo en autoridad de los otros. Quanto á mí yo les ruego , que os guien felizmente á vuestra patria : que confundan en ella la insolencia de vuestros contrarios , y que hagan que veais en paz reynar á Ulises con su amada Penélope. Os doy un buen baxel , ó Telémaco , lleno de armados, y de remeros : podrán serviros contra aquellos iniquos hombres , que persiguen á vuestra madre. Vuestra virtud , que de nada necesita , no me dexa , Mentor , cosa que desearos. Id ambos , vivid ambos felices , acordaos de Aristódemo : y si los pueblos de Itaca hubieren menester á mis Cretenses , estad seguros de que les asistiré hasta el último aliento de mi vida. Abrazónos , y no pudimos detener las lágrimas , haciendo la expresion de nuestra gratitud.

Hinchaba nuestras velas el viento , y prometíanos feliz navegacion. Ya el monte Ida no se descubria sino es como un collado pequenito : desaparecian las playas , y parece , que entrándose en el mar las riveras del Peloponeso , venian á nosotros para encontrarnos ; quando improvisamente una tempestad fiera cubrió de nubes el cielo , y conjuró contra nuestra vida todos los furores del piélago. Trocóse el dia en noche , y púsoñs delante de los ojos la formidable imagen de la muerte. Vos fuisteis , ó Neptuno , quien con el soberbio tridente desenfrenó las ondas de todo vuestro lúbrico Imperio. Venus para vengarse del desprecio , que hicimos

she addressed with a voice broken by grief, and her eyes swimming in tears : thus, at least, I have been informed by Mentor, who is acquainted with celestial things : « Wilt thou suffer, » said she, « these impious men to deride my power, and escape unpunished ? My power has been confessed by the gods themselves ; and yet all who acknowledge it in my favourite island, these presumptuous mortals have dared to condemn : they pride themselves in a frigid wisdom, which was never warmed by the rays of beauty ; and they despise, as folly, the delights of love. Hast thou forgot that I was born in thy dominions ? Wherefore dost thou delay to overwhelm the wretches whom I abhor.

« Neptune immediately swelled the waves into mountains, that reached the skies ; and Venus, smiling upon the storm, believed our shipwreck to be inevitable. Our pilot cried out, in confusion and despair, that he could no longer withstand the fury of the winds, which drove us upon the rocks with irresistible violence ; our mast was broken by a sudden gust ; and the moment after we heard the points of the rocks that were under water, tear open the bottom of our vessel : the water flowing in on every side, the vessel sunk, and the mariners sent up a cry of distress to heaven. I ran to Mentor, and throwing my arms round him — « Death, » said I, « is now indeed upon us ; let us meet it with intrepidity. The gods have delivered us from so many dangers, only that we may perish in this : let us die then, my dear Mentor ; it is some consolation to me that I die with you ; and it would be hopeless labour to dispute life with the storm. »

Mentor answered — « True courage never sits down inactive in despair : it is not enough to expect death with tranquillity ; we ought, without dreading the event, to continue our utmost efforts against it. Let us lay hold on some fragment of the vessel ; and, while this affrighted and confused multitude deplore the loss of life, without attempting to preserve it, let
de

de ella en Cytera, y hasta en su mismo templo, se fué en busca de ese dios. Hablóle dulcemente, y dando con sus lágrimas belleza al rostro, y fuerza á las palabras: por lo ménos, así me lo insinuó Mentor, bien versado en el arte de conocer los dioses, y entender sus secretos. ¿Sufrias, dixo, ó Neptuno, que se burlen estos ímpíos sin castigo de mi poder? Los mismos dioses lo sienten, y han tenido osadía estos dos temerarios, para desaprobar quanto se hace en mi isla. Se jactan de una prudencia suficiente, para resistir quantas pruebas se pueden hacer de ellos, dando al amor el título de locura. ¿Os olvidais acaso de que he nacido yo en vuestro imperio? ¿Porqué tardais en sepultar esos hombres, que no puedo sufrir, en vuestros insondables abismos?

Apénas habló Venus de esta suerte, quando desordenando Neptuno la quietud silenciosa de sus dominios, hizo subir las ondas hasta el cielo; y ella se paró muy risueña, teniendo por seguro nuestro naufragio. Gritó nuestro piloto desalentado, que no podía ya resistir á los vientos, que iban á estrellar nuestra nave en los escollos: rompió el mastil la violencia furiosa del uracan, y un momento despues entre el horrible estruendo de los rayos, del mar, y de los navegantes, percibimos, que ya en las rocas se estaba destrozando el baxel. Entró el agua por todas partes, se undió la nave; y en este lamentoso momento levantáron al cielo los remeros un clamor miserable, pero sin fruto. Yo entónces, abrazando á Mentor, le dixe de esta suerte: He aquí la muerte: menester es recibirla con esfuerzo. No nos han preservado los dioses de tantos riesgos sino para hacernos ahora perecer. Muramos, ó Mentor, muramos: yo muero consolado, por morir con vos. Seria cosa inútil luchar con la borrasca, para salvar la vida.

Al verdadero esfuerzo, respondió Mentor, jamas falta alguna esperanza. No basta estar dispuesto á recibir la muerte con sosiego; es menester, que sin tenerla miedo, se haga todo el esfuerzo para evadirla. Tomemos vos, y yo un banco de los remeros, miéntras que oda esa muchedumbre de hombres tímidos y desmayados se lamenta de haber de perder la vida, sin procu-

us try at least to preserve our own. » While he was yet speaking, he snatched up an axe, and devided the splinter that still held the broken mast together, which, falling cross the vessel, had laid it on one side. The top of the mast already lay in the water; and Mentor, now pushing off the other end, leaped upon it himself in the midst of the waves; and, calling me by my name, encouraged me to follow him. As a mighty oak, when the winds combine against it, stands firm on its root, and its leaves only are shaken by the tempest, so Mentor, who was not only fearless, but serene, appeared superior to the power of the winds and waves. I followed his example; and the force of his example, who could have resisted?

We steered ourselves upon the floating mast, which was more than sufficient to sustain us both; and therefore rendered us a most important service; for if we had been obliged to swim merely by our own effort, our strength must have been exhausted. The mast, however, on which we sat, was often overwhelmed by the tempest, notwithstanding its bulk; so that we were as often plunged under the water, which rushed in at our mouths, ears, and nostrils; and it was not without the utmost labour and difficulty that we recovered our seat. Sometimes a wave that was swelled into a mountain, rolled over us; and we then kept our hold with all our might, lest the mast, which was our only hope, should be driven from under us in the shock.

» While we were in this dreadful situation, Mentor, who possessed the same tranquillity on the fragment of a wreck that he does now on that bank of turf, addressed me in these words: « Canst thou believe, Telemachus, that the winds and waves are the arbiters of life and death? Can they cause thee to perish otherwise than as they fulfil the command of heaven? Every event is determined by the gods; let the gods, therefore, and not the sea, be the object of thy fear. Wert thou already at the bottom of this abyss, the hand of Jove could draw thee forth; or shouldst thou be exalted to the summit of Olympus, and behold the

rar el medio de salvarla; y no perdamos ni un momento para poner en cobro la nuestra. Tomó al punto una segur : acaba de cortar el mastil, ya ántes roto, y que habiendo dado con la punta en el mar, habia inclinado de aquel lado el baxel : arrójase sobre él en medio de las ondas enfurecidas : llámame por mi nombre, y dame aliento para seguirle. Como una grande encina, acometida de poderosos vientos, conjurados á una para su daño, queda inmoble, y asida de sus hon-das raíces, sin que haga el torbellino otra cosa, que estremecer sus hojas; así me parecia que Mentor no solamente firme, y esforzado, sino sosegado y risueño, mandaba á los vientos y al mar. Seguile yo : ¿ mas quién no le siguiera, hallándose de él animado?

Guiábamos nosotros el árbol, sobre el qual fluctuando navegabamos : era de gran consuelo y ayuda, el poder ir sentados en él. Si nos hubiera sido forzoso nadar continuamente, se hubieran bien apriesa acabado las fuerzas. Sin embargo, la tempestad hacia muchas veces revolverse aquel grande tronco; y entonces nos veíamos del todo zabullidos en el mar, tragando el agua amarga, que despues despediamos por la boca, por las narices, y por los ojos y orejas; y para recobrar la parte superior de aquel misero asylo de nuestro infortunio, nos hallábamos obligados á batallar con la misma marea. Alguna vez la ola, semejante en la altura á una montaña, venia á descargar sobre nuestra cabeza, y estábamos firmes, temiendo, que en aquel violento trastorno se nos huyese el mastil, dexando sin aliento á la esperanza.

Viéndonos en este terrible estado Mentor tan sosegado, como reposa ahora sobre la fresca yerba, me hablaba de esta suerte : ¿ Creeis vos, Telémaco, que se haya abandonado vuestra vida á discrecion del viento y de las olas? ¿ Creeis que puedan haceros perecer sin órden de los dioses? No, no : los dioses dan la decision de todo : es pues preciso tener miedo á los dioses, y no al mar. Si estuvierais en lo profundo de los abismos, de ahí os podria sacar la mano poderosa de Jove : si en el cielo pisando las estrellas, de allí Jove os podria arrojar á los abismos, ó precipitaros al fuego de la hoguera infernal. Oia y admiraba yo este dis-

stars rolling under thy feet, the hand of Jove could again plunge thee to the centre, or cast thee headlong into hell. » I heard and admired this discourse; but though it gave me some comfort, my mind was too much depressed and confused to reply. He saw me not, nor could I see him. We passed the whole night, shivering with cold, in a state between life and death: driving before the storm, and not knowing on what shore we should be cast. At length, however, the impetuosity of the wind began to abate; and the sea resembled a person whose anger, after having been long indulged in tumult and outrage, is exhausted by its own vehemence, and subsides in murmurs and discontent. The noise of the surge gradually died away; and the waves were not higher than the ridges that are left by the plough.

« And now Aurora threw open the gates of heaven to the sun, and cheered us with the promise of a better day; the east glowed, as if on fire; and the stars, which had been so long hidden, just appeared, and fled at the approach of Phœbus. We now descried land at a distance; the breeze wafted us towards it; and hope revived in my bosom: but we looked round in vain for our companions, who probably resigned themselves to the tempest in despair, and sunk with the vessel. As we approached nearer to the shore, the sea drove us upon the rocks; against which we should have been dashed in pieces, but that we received the shock against the end of the mast, which Mentor rendered as serviceable upon this occasion as the best rudder could have been in the hands of the most skillful pilot. Thus, having passed the rocks in safety, we found the rest of the coast rise from the sea with a smooth and easy ascent; and, floating at ease upon a gentle tide, we soon reached the sands with our feet. There we were discovered by the goddess who inhabits this happy island: and there she vouchsafed to take us into her protection. »

END OF THE SIXTH BOOK,

curso, que me consolaba un poco; mas no tenia libre la razon para darle respuesta. El no me veia, ni yo podia verle. Tiritando del frio, y medio muertos de la fatiga, pasamos el espacio de la noche, que parecia eterna, sin saber á qué parte la borrasca nos habria arrojado. Finalmente, los vientos comenzaron á abo-
nanzar, y el mar bramando, parecia un hombre, que habiendo estado largo rato indignado, causado finalmente de su mismo enojo, no se queda sino con un residuo de la turbacion, é inquietud: murmuraba á la sorda, y no eran ya sus ondas sino como los surcos de un campo arado.

Llegó la aurora á prometer el sol, y á anunciar el dia, iluminóse ya todo el oriente, y las estrellas tanto tiempo escondidas viniéron otra vez como á hacer reverencia al sol, que al explicar sus luces las licenció. Vimos entónces desde léjos la tierra, y el viento nos trahia ácia ella. Yo sentí renacerme la esperanza en lo interior del pecho; pero no descubrimos algün otro de nuestros compañeros; y es verosimil, que habiendo desmayado, se hundieron juntamente con el baxel á los primeros lances de la tempestad. Quando estuvimos cerca de la tierra, el mar nos impelia contra los escollos, en los quales corria riesgo de que nos estrellára; pero haciamos todo esfuerzo para enderezar ácia ellos la punta de nuestro árbol; del qual Mentor hacia lo que pudiera hacer de un buen timon el mas diestro piloto. Así escapamos de los escollos, y hallamos finalmente una playa fácil, y llana, adonde sin trabajo llegamos sobre la arena. Ahí os encontramos, ó diosa, que habitais esta isla, y ahí os dignásteis tambien de darnos acogida.

FIN DEL LIBRO SEXTO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK VII.

ARGUMENT.

CALYPSO admires Telemachus for his adventures, and exerts all her power to detain him in her island, by inciting him to return her passion: but he is sustained by the wisdom and friendship of Mentor, as well against her artifices as the power of Cupid, whom Venus sends to her assistance. Telemachus, however, and Eucharis become mutually enamoured of each other, which provokes Calypso first to jealousy, and then to rage; and she swears, by the Styx, that Telemachus shall leave her island; she is consoled by Cupid, who excites the nymphs to burn the vessel which had been built by Mentor, while Mentor was labouring to get Telemachus on board. Telemachus is touched with a secret joy at this event: Mentor, who perceives it, throws him from a rock into the sea, and leaps after him, that they may swim to another vessel, which appeared not far distant from the shore.

WHEN Telemachus had concluded the relation of his adventures, the nymphs, whose eyes had till then been immoveably fixed upon him, looked at each other with a mixture of astonishment and delight. « What men, » said they, « are these! In the fortunes of whom else would the gods have taken part? and of whom else could such wonders have been related? Ulysses is already surpassed in eloquence, in wisdom, and in courage, by his son. What an aspect! what manly beauty! what a mixture of dignity and complacency, of firmness and modesty! If he was not known to be born of a mortal, he might easily be mistaken for a god, for Bacchus, for Mercury, or, perhaps, even for Apollo himself! But who is this Mentor? His first appearance is that of a man obscurely born, and of a mean condition; but when he is examined with attention, something inexpressible is discovered, something that is more than mortal! »

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO VII.

SUMARIO.

PARA vengarse Venus de su desprecio, hace baxar á Cupido como niño, á la Isla de Calipso. Juega él con la diosa, con Telémaco, y con las Ninfas: hiérelas á todos y se rie. Ama Calipso á Telémaco, y se enfurece. No la corresponde Telémaco, y ama á la Ninfa Eucaris. Avisa Mentor á Telémaco de su peligro. Telémaco se defiende con la discrecion de Eucaris. Vuelve Mentor á disuadirle de su pasión. Hace Calipso, que Mentor fabrique un baxel para alojar á Telémaco. Quiere Telémaco despedirse de Eucaris ántes de partir. Las Ninfas amigas de Eucaris pegan fuego al baxel. Nuevo furor de Calipso. Mentor conduce á Telémaco á un peñasco, que estaba sobre el mar; de allí le arroja á la agua, él le sigue y ambos se acogen á un baxel, que pasa por allí cerca.

QUANDO Telémaco puso fin á sus voces, las ninfas, que se habian estado inmóviles, y los ojos fijos en él, se miráron unas á otras; y preguntaban entre sí mismas: ¿ Quiénes pueden ser estos hombres, á quienes quieren tanto los dioses? Se ha oído hablar jamas de tan maravillosos sucesos? El hijo de Ulises ya le llega á exceder en la facundia, en el juicio, y en la braveza. Qué aspecto!; Qué belleza!; Qué dulzura!; Qué modestia!; Pero qué nobleza tambien!; Qué grandeza! Si no se supiera que era hijo de un hombre, facilmente creyeramos que es Baco, ó Mercurio, y aun mas el grande Apolo. ¿ Pero quién será este Mentor, que parece un hombre sencillo, obscuro, y de mediana condicion? Quien le mira de cerca descubre en él no sé qué de superior á quanto puede hallarse en un hombre.

Calypso heard these exclamations with a confusion which she could not hide ; and her eyes were incessantly glancing from Mentor to Telemachus , and from Telemachus to Mentor. She was often about to request a repetition of the story to which she had listened with so much delight, and as often suppressed her desire. At length she rose hastily from her seat ; and taking Telemachus with her , retired to a neighbouring grove of myrtle , where she laboured , with all her art , to learn from him whether Mentor was not a deity concealed under a human form. It was not however , in the power of Telemachus to satisfy her curiosity ; for Minerva , who accompanied him in the likeness of Mentor , thought him too young to be trusted with the secret , and made the confident of her designs : she was , besides , desirous to prove him in the greatest dangers ; and no fortitude would have been necessary to sustain him against any evil , however dreadful and however near , if he had known himself to be under the immediate protection of Minerva. As Telemachus , therefore , mistook his divine companion for Mentor , all the artifices of Calypso to discover what she wished to know were ineffectual.

In the mean time the nymphs who had been left with Mentor gathered round him , and amused themselves by asking him questions. One inquired the particulars of his journey into Ethiopia ; another desired to know what he had seen at Damascus ; and a third asked him whether he had known Ulysses before the siege of Troy. Mentor answered them all with complacency and affability ; and thought he used no studied ornaments of speech , yet his expression was not only significant , but graceful.

The return of Calypso soon put an end to this conversation ; her nymphs then began to gather flowers , and to sing for the amusement of Telemachus ; and she took Mentor aside , that she might , if possible , discover who he was from his own discourse. The words of Calypso were wont to steal upon the heart , as sleep steals upon the eyes of the weary , with a sweet and gentle , though irresistible influence ; but , in Mentor there was something which defeated her eloquence and

Escuchaba Calíпсо estos discursos con una turbación, que no podía encubrir. Su mirar inconstante pasaba sin parar, de Mentor á Telémaco, y de éste otra vez á Mentor. Alguna vez queria que volviera Telémaco á empezar la larga historia de sus sucesos, y luego de improviso ella misma le interrumpia. Finalmente, levantándose aceleradamente, llevó solo á Telémaco á un bosque de arrayanes, donde no dexó de probar todas sus artes, para averiguar por él, si acaso era Mentor algun dios disfrazado en el traje de hombre. No podia Telémaco decirlo; porque Minerva que le acompañaba baxo de la figura de Mentor, no se lo habia aun declarado, por ser aun muy tierna su juventud; y no le tenia por tan callado, que fuera capaz de fiarle lo que ideaba hacer. Por otra parte queria experimentarle en mayores peligros: y si hubiera sabido que le acompañaba Minerva con tal auxilio, tal vez le hubiera dado demasiado aliento; y no hubiera aprendido á despreciar los sucesos mas formidables. El pues pensaba que Minerva era Mentor; y quedáron frustrados los artificios de Calíпсо, para averiguar lo que pretendia.

Entre tanto las Ninfas rodeando á Mentor, se entretenian en preguntarle diferentes cosas. La una deseaba saber las circunstancias de su viage á Etiopia: la otra le preguntaba lo que habia visto en Damasco: la otra, si en el tiempo pasado habia conocido á Ulises antes del asedio de Troya. El respondia á todas con agrado: y aunque eran sencillas sus voces, sin embargo iban llenas de mucha gracia.

No permitió Calípson que se alargara mucho esta conversacion: volvió, y mientras las Ninfas se pusieron á coger flores, cantando para divertir á Telémaco: tomó a parte á Mentor para hablarle, y sacarle algun secreto. No se introduce mas apaciblemente el dulce vapor del sueño en los ojos, que tiene ya medio cerrados, y en los cansados miembros de un hombre fatigado, de lo que se insinuaron para alhagar el pecho de Mentor las lisonjeras voces de la diosa. Sin

eluded her beauty ; something as much superior to the power of Calypso , as the rock that hides its foundation in the centre , and its summit in the clouds , is superior to the wind that beats against it. He stood immoveable in the purposes of his own wisdom , and suffered the goddess to exert all her arts against him , with the utmost indifference and security. Sometimes he would let her deceive herself with the hope of having embarrassed him by her questions , and betrayed him into the involuntary discovery of himself ; but , just as she thought her curiosity was on the point of being gratified , her expectations were suddenly disappointed , all her conjectures were overthrown , and , by some short and unexpected answer , she was again overwhelmed in perplexity and doubt.

In this manner Calypso passed one day after another ; sometimes endeavouring to gain the heart of Telemachus by flattery , and sometimes labouring to alienate him from Mentor , of whom she no longer hoped to obtain the intelligence she desired. She employed the most beautiful of her nymphs to inflame the breast of the young hero with desire ; and she was assisted in her designs against him by a deity whose power was superior to her own.

Venus burned with resentment against Mentor and Telemachus , for having treated the worship which she received at Cyprus with disdain ; and their escape from the tempest , which had been raised against them by Neptune , filled her breast with indignation and grief : she therefore complained of her disappointment and her wrongs to Jupiter , and from his superior power she hoped more effectual redress. But the father of the gods only smiled at her complaint ; and , without acquainting her that Telemachus had been preserved by Minerva in the likeness of Mentor , he left her at liberty to gratify her resentment as she could.

The goddess immediately quitted Olympus ; and , thoughtless of all the rich perfumes that were rising from her altars at Cythera , Idalia , and Paphos , moun-

embargo, sentia siempre un no sé qué, con que se quebrantaban sus esfuerzos, y hacia burla de sus alhagos. Semejante á una roca inaccesible, que oculta entre las nubes su elevada frente, y no la contrastan los furiosos vientos; Mentor inmóvil en sus sabios pensamientos se dexaba tentar de Calípso. Alguna vez tambien la dexaba esperar, que lo confundiria con las preguntas que le iba haciendo, y que registraria la verdad en lo profundo de su corazon; pero en aquel instante en que se persuadia la diosa satisfacer á su curiosidad, se le desvanecian sus esperanzas. En un punto se le huía como la sombra quanto se figuraba haber cogido; y una breve respuesta de Mentor la volvia á poner en sus primeras dudas.

Pasaba así los dias, ya deslumbrando á Telémaco, ya buscando el modo de sacarlo del lado de Mentor, á quien no esperaba poder ya comprehender. Empleaba sus Ninfas mas hermosas para encender en el seno del jovencito la llama del amor: y otra deidad mas poderosa que ella, la vino á socorrer, para llevar al cabo este designio.

Venus siempre llena de saña por el desprecio que Mentor, y Telémaco habian mostrado del culto que se le hacia en Chipre, no podia aplacarse, viendo que estos dos temerarios se habiau escapado de los vientos y del mar en la borrasca, que levantó Neptuno contra ellos. Explicó á Jove su dolor, y riéndose el padre de los dioses, sin querer descubrirle, que Minerva en el traje de Mentor habia protegido, y abrigaba al hijo de Ulises, la permitió buscara el modo de vengarse de entrambos.

Partióse pues del cielo, y sin cuidar mas de los arcos, que arden sobre sus aras en Pafos, en Cytera, y Idalia, levantó el vuelo dentro de su carroza, tirada

ted her chariot, and called her son : the grief which was diffused over her countenance rather increased than diminished her beauty, and she addressed the god of love in these terms.

« Who, my son, shall henceforth burn incense upon our altars, if those who despise our power escape unpunished ? The wretches who have thus offended with impunity are before thee ; make haste, therefore, to secure our honour, and let thy arrows pierce them to the heart : go down with me to that island, and I will speak to Calypso. » The goddess shook the reins as she spoke ; and, gliding through the air, surrounded by a cloud which the sun had tinged with a golden hue, she presented herself before Calypso, who was sitting pensive and alone by the side of a fountain, at some distance from her grotto.

« Unhappy goddess ! » said she, « thou hast already been despised and deserted by Ulysses, whom the ties, not only of love, but of gratitude, should have bound to thee ; and the son, yet more obdurate than the father, is now preparing to repeat the insult. But love is come in person to avenge thee : I will leave him with thee ; and he shall remain among the nymphs of this island, as Bacchus did once among those of the island of Naxos, who cherished him in his infancy. Telemachus will regard him, not as a deity, but as a child ; and, not being upon his guard against him, will be too sensible of his power. » The Queen of Beauty then turning from Calypso, re-ascended to Olympus in the golden cloud from which she had alighted upon the earth, and left behind her a train of celestial fragrance, which, expanding by degrees, filled all the groves of Calypso with perfumes.

Cupid remained in the arms of Calypso ; and, though she was herself a deity, yet she felt his fires diffused in her breast. It happened that a nymph, whose name was Eucharis, was now near her, and Calypso put the boy into her arms. This was a present relief ; but, alas ! it was purchased too dear. The boy seemed at first to be harmless ; gentle, lovely, and engaging ; his playful caresses, and perpetual smiles, might well have persuaded all about him that he was

de palomas : llamó á su hijo , y difundióse su dolor sobre el semblante adornado de una nueva hermosura , le dixo de esta forma :

¿ No ves , hijo mío , á dos hombres , que desprecian tu poder , y el mío ? ¿ Quién querrá en adelante darnos adoracion ? Anda , ve , y atraviesa con tus saetas esos dos insensibles corazones , baxa conmigo á esta isla ; yo misma iré á hablar á Calípso (dixo) ; y rompiendo el ayre , cerrada en una nube arrebolada de oro , se puso ante los ojos de Calípso , que estaba entonces sola á la orilla de una fuente , muy léjos de su gruta , y hablóla de este modo :

Diosa infeliz , á quien ya ha desdeñado la ingratitude de Ulises , quando es dispone su hijo desprecio semejante ; el mismo amor viene hoy para vengaros. Yo os le dexo : él se estará entre vuestras Ninfas , como estuvo otro tiempo Baco con las de Naxó , que cuidaron de su crianza. Verálo Telémaco , como , á un ordinario rapaz : no podrá temer de él , y luego experimentará su poder. Dichas estas palabras , y volviendo á la dorada nube , de donde habia salido , dexó derramado en su carrera un suavísimo olor de ambrosiá ; con que todos los bosques de Calípso quedaron perfumados.

Cupido quedó en brazos de Calípso , y aunque era diosa sintió luego la llama , que se iba introduciendo en su pecho. Para encontrar alivio de su tormento , le pasó sin tardanza á la Ninfa Eucaris , que estaba á su lado : mas ay ; Quántas veces se arrepintió despues de esta inocente accion ! Primero aquel rapaz parecia apacible , dulce , amable , ingenuo , y gracioso , quanto puede caber el deseo , y aun en la idea. Mirándolo jovial , lisonjero , siempre risueño , se pudiera creer ,

born only to delight ; but the moment the heart is open to his endearments, it feels that they have a malignant power. He is, beyond conception, deceitful and malicious ; his caresses have no view but to betray ; and his smiles have no cause, but the mischiefs that he has perpetrated, or that he meditates.

But, with all his power and all his subtilty, he did not dare to approach Mentor. In Mentor there was a severity of virtue that intimidated and kept him at a distance ; he knew also, by a secret sensation, that this inscrutable stranger could not be wounded by his arrows. The nymphs, indeed, were soon sensible of his power ; but the wound which they could not cure, they were very careful to conceal.

In the meantime, Telemachus, who saw the boy playing sometimes with one of these nymphs, and sometimes with another, was surprised at his sweetness and beauty : he sometimes pressed him to his bosom, sometimes set him on his knee, and frequently took him in his arms. It was not long before he became sensible of a certain disquietude, of which he could not discover the cause ; and the more he endeavoured to remove it by innocent amusement, the more restless and enervated he grew. He observed to Mentor, that the nymphs of Calypso were very different from the women they had seen in the island of Cyprus, whose indecent behaviour rendered them disgusting in spite of their charms : « In these immortal beauties, » says he, « there is an innocence, a modesty, a simplicity, which it is impossible not to admire and love. » The youth blushed as he spoke, though he knew not why ; he could neither forbear speaking, nor go on with his discourse, which was interrupted and incoherent, always obscure, and sometimes quite unintelligible.

« O Telemachus, » said Mentor, « the dangers to which you was exposed in the isle of Cyprus were nothing in comparison of those which you do not now suspect. As vice, when it is undisguised, never fails

que no pudiera dar sino deleite ; pero apenas se dió fé á sus caricias , se percibía no sé qué pestilencia , ó qué veneno. No alhagaba el niñuelo maligno , y engañoso , sino con intento de hacer, traición : y no se reía nunca sino de crueles males que había hecho , ó que quería hacer.

No se atrevía á acercarse á Mentor , cuya severidad le espantaba ; y advertía , que aquel desconocido era incapaz de heridas : de suerte , que ninguna de sus flechas le había podido atravesar. Quanto á las Ninfas , luego sintieron la llama que encendió el engañoso niño ; pero ocultaban con disimulo la profunda herida , que martirizaba sus pechos.

Entre tanto Telémaco se prendó de la apacibilidad , y hermosura del niño , viéndole jugar con las Ninfas. Abrazábale , y ahora le tomaba sobre sus rodillas , ahora entre sus brazos , y sentía en sí una inquietud , de la qual no podía entender la causa ; y quanto mas quería jugar inocentemente , tanto mas se turbaba , y enflaquecía el corazón. ¿ Veis estas Ninfas , le decía á Mentor , quán diferentes son de aquellas mugeres de Chipre , cuya desenvoltura deslucia el agrado de su belleza ? Pero estas inmortales bellezas muestran una inocencia , una modestia y un candor , que place por extremo. Hablando así , se sonrojaba siempre , sin saber por qué , y no podía dexar de hablar ; pero apenas había comenzado , no podía pasar mas adelante , y eran sus palabras interrumpidas , obscuras , y alguna vez sin sentido.

Los riesgos de la Isla de Chipre , le respondió Mentor , eran nada , Telémaco , si se comparan con esos , de que al presente os fiais. El vicio grosero hace horror : el descaro brutal causa indignation y es mucho

to excite horror, we are alarmed at the wanton who has thrown off all restraint; but our danger is much greater when the appearance of modesty remains; we then persuade ourselves, that virtue only has excited our love, and give ourselves up to a deceitful passion, of which beauty is, indeed, the object; and which we seldom learn to distrust till it is too strong to be subdued. Fly, therefore, my dear Telemachus, from these fatal beauties, who appear to be virtuous, only that they may deceive the confidence they raise; fly from the dangers to which you are here exposed by your youth: but, above all, fly from this boy, whom you do not dread, only because you do not know him. This boy is Cupid, whom his mother has brought into this island, to punish us for treating her worship at Cyprus with contempt: he has already pierced the heart of Calypso, who is enamoured of you; he has inflamed all the beauties of her train; and his fires have reached even thy breast, O unhappy youth; although thou knowest it not!

Telemachus often interrupted Mentor, during this admonition: « Why, » said he, « should we not continue in this island? Ulysses is no longer a sojourner upon the earth: he has, without doubt, been long buried in the deep: and Penelope, after waiting in vain, not only for his return, but for mine, must have yielded to the importunities of some fortunate suitor, among the number that surrounds her; especially as it can scarce be supposed but that her father Icarus must have exerted his paternal authority to oblige her to accept another husband. For what, then, can I return to Ithaca, but to see her disgraced by a new alliance, and be witness to the violation of that truth which she plighted to my father? And if Penelope has thus forgotten Ulysses, it cannot be thought that he is remembered by the people; and neither, indeed, can we hope to get alive into the island; for her suitors will certainly have placed, at every port, a band of ruffians, sufficient to cut us off at our return. »

« All that you have said, » replied Mentor, « is only another proof that you are under the influence

mas peligrosa una hermosura modesta. Amando, no piensán los hombres amar sino á la virtud, y dexanse insensiblemente arrebatar de los engañosos alhagos de una pasion, que no se entiende, sino quando no es tiempo de desecharla. Huid, mi querido Telémaco, huid de estas ninfas, que no son tan discretas sino para mejor engañaros: huid los riesgos de vuestra juventud; mas singularmente huid de este rapaz, á quien no conoceis. El es Cupido, á quien su madre Venus ha traído á esta Isla, para tomar venganza del desprecio, que hicisteis de su culto en Cytera. El ha herido el corazon de Calipso; y ella, apasionada por vos, ha encendido los pechos de las ninfas, que la rodean, y ardeis vos mismo, jóven infeliz, sin que casi lo repareis.

Interrumpia muchas veces Telémaco á Mentor, y le decia: ¿Y por qué no hemos de hacer alto en esta Isla? Ulises ya murió: debe ya de hacer mucho tiempo que se sepultó entre las ondas. Penélope no viendonos volver, ni á él, ni á mí, no se habrá hallado fuerte para resistir á número tan grande de pretendientes, y Icaro su padre la habrá constreñido á tomar nuevo esposo. ¿Luego yo volveria á Itaca, para verla empeñada en algun nuevo matrimonio, rota la fé, que dió antes de partir á mi padre? Los de Itaca han perdido la memoria de Ulises; y no podemos volver, sino á buscar una segura muerte; porque han tomado los pasos que hay para entrar al puerto los amantes de Penélope, á fin de asegurar nuestra ruina, en caso que volyamos.

Este es puntualmente el efecto de una ciega pasion, le respondió Mentor. Busca el hombre con sutileza.

of a foolish and fatal passion. You labour with great subtilty to find every argument that can favour it, and to avoid all those by which it would be condemned; you are ingenious only to deceive yourself, and to secure forbidden pleasures from the intrusion of remorse. Have you forgot that the gods themselves have interposed to favour your return? Was not your escape from Sicily supernatural? Were not the misfortunes that you suffered in Egypt converted into sudden and unexpected prosperity? and were not the dangers which threatened you at Tyre averted by an invisible hand? Is it possible that, after so many miracles, you should still doubt to what end you have been preserved? But why do I remonstrate? Of the good fortune which was designed for thee, thou art unworthy! As for myself, I make no doubt but I shall find means to quit this island; and if here thou art determined to stay here am I determined to leave thee. In this place let the degenerate son of the great Ulysses hide himself among women, in the shameful obscurity of voluptuousness and sloth; and stoop, even in spite of heaven, to that which his father disdained.»

This reproach, so forcible and so keen, pierced Telemachus to the heart; he was melted with tenderness and grief; but his grief was mingled with shame, and his shame with fear. He dreaded the resentment of Mentor, and the loss of that companion to whose sagacity and kindness he was so much indebted. But, at the same time, the passion which had just taken possession of his breast, and to which he was himself a stranger, made him still tenacious of his purpose. » What! » said he to Mentor, with tears in his eyes, » do you reckon as nothing that immortality which I may now share with Calypso? » — « I hold as nothing, » replied Mentor, « all that is contrary to the dictates of virtue, and to the commands of heaven. Virtue now calls you back to your country, to Ulysses, and to Penelope; virtue forbids you to give up your heart to an unworthy passion; and the gods, who have delivered you from so many dangers, that your

todas las razones que hay en su favor, y cierra los ojos para no ver las que le condenan. Nunca es tan ingenioso, como para engañarse á sí mismo, y para adormecer sus remordimientos. ¿ Os habeis olvidado por ventura de todo lo que han hecho los dioses, para restituiros á vuestra patria, al tiempo que salisteis de Sicilia? ¿ Las desgracias que en Egipto sufristeis, no se han trocado casi de repente en felicidad? ¿ Qué mano no visible os ha librado de todos los peligros, que en Tyro amenazaban vuestra cabeza? Despues de tantas cosas prodigiosas? ignorais todavía las que os tienen los hados prevenidas? ¿ Mas qué os digo? Vos no las mereceis. Por lo que toca á mí, yo me parto, y sabré hallar el medio para salir de esta isla. Vil hijo de tal padre, tan sabio, y generoso, pasad aquí entre esa tropa de mugeres una vida triste, y sin honra: haced aun á despecho de los dioses, lo que vuestro padre ha tenido por indecente á sí.

Penetráron estas palabras lo íntimo del corazon de Telémaco, y se sintió enternecido con el razonamiento de Mentor. Iba su dolor enlazado con la vergüenza: temia la indignacion, y la ausencia de un amigo tan sabio, á quien debia tanto; pero una pasion nueva, y que él no conocia, lo transformaba en otro hombre diverso del que era primero. ¿ Pues qué, decia á Mentor con las lágrimas á los ojos, en nada apreciáis vos la inmortalidad que Calipso me ofrece? Yo en nada estimo, respondió Mentor, todo lo que se opone á la virtud, y á las órdenes de los dioses. La virtud os está llamando á vuestra patria, para ver otra vez á Ulises, y á Penélope: la virtud os prohíbe abandonaros á una necia pasion: los dioses, que os han sacado de tantos riesgos, disponiéndooos para una gloria igual á la de vuestro padre, os mandan que dexéis esta isla: ¿ Y amor, aquel vergonzoso tirano, puede solo teneros aquí firme? ¿ Y qué hareis de una vida inmortal sin

name might not be less illustrious than that of Ulysses, command you to quit this island, where only the tyranny of love could detain you : a tyranny which to resist is to subdue, and which therefore it is infamous to suffer. Immortality ! alas, what is immortality without liberty, without virtue, and without honour ? Is it not a state of misery without hope : still more deplorable, as it can never end ? »

To this expostulation Telemachus replied only by sighs. Sometimes he almost wished that Mentor would force him from the island in spite of himself ; sometimes he was impatient to be left behind, that he might be at liberty to gratify his wishes without fearing to be reproached for his weakness : a thousand different wishes and desires maintained a perpetual conflict in his breast, and were predominant by turns ; his mind, therefore, was in a state of tumult and fluctuation, like the sea when it is at once urged by different winds of equal force. Sometimes he threw himself on the ground near the sea, and remained a long time extended motionless on the beach ; sometimes he hid himself in the gloomy recesses of a wood, where he wept in secret, and uttered loud and passionate complaints. His body was emaciated, and his eyes were grown hollow and eager, he was pale and dejected, and in every respect so much altered as scarcely to be known : his beauty, sprightliness, and vigour had forsaken him ; all the grace and dignity of his deportment were lost ; and life itself suffered by a swift but silent decay. As a flower that blows in the morning fills the air with fragrance, and then gradually fades at the approach of night, loses the vivid brightness of its colours, droops, withers, and at length falls with its own weight ; so the son of Ulysses was sinking insensibly into the grave.

Mentor, perceiving that all his virtue and resolution was irresistibly borne down by the violence of his passion, had recourse to an artifice, which he hoped might preserve him from its most pernicious effects. He had remarked that Calypso was enamoured of Telemachus, and Telemachus of Eucharis : for as Cupid is always busy to give pain under the appea-

libertad, sin virtud, y sin gloria? Seria aun mas infeliz esta vida, por eso mismo que no tendria fin.

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No respondió Telémaco á un tal discurso, sino con algunos suspiros. Alguna vez deseára que Mentor le sacára á su despecho de aquella isla; y alguna otra le parecia que tardaba demasiado aquel tiempo, en que se habria ausentado, para no tener á los ojos amigo tan severo, que le reprehendia de su flaqueza. Alteraban su entendimiento todos estos contrarios pensamientos, y en ninguno de todos ellos hallaba solidez, siendo su corazon como el mar, que sirve por juguete de los vientos, que de partes contrarias lo acometen. Estaba con frecuencia tendido, é inmoble sobre la ribera del mar: muchas veces lloraba amargamente, y levantaba gritos, semejantes á los bramidos de un dolorido leon, oculto en lo mas hondo de una espesa selva. Habíase enflaquecido; y sus ojos hundidos centelleaban un fuego abrasador; quien le viera descolorido, flaco, y tan desfigurado, creyera fácilmente que él no era Telémaco. Su belleza, su natural festivo, su noble vivacidad se iban huyendo de él: parecia una flor, que saliendo de su verde cogollo, al despuntar el Sol difunde en la campaña apacible fragancia; pero que avicinándose á la tarde, poco á poco amortigua sus colores, y ya se agosta y seca, y inclina su hermosa cabeza; no pudiendo mas sostenerla. Así el hijo de Ulises se hallaba ya vecino de la muerte.

Conociendo Mentor, que Telémaco no podia resistir á la fuerza de la pasion, formó; para librarlo de tan crecido riesgo, un designio muy ingenioso. Habia él observado, que Calipso amaba con exceso á Telémaco, y que éste no tenia ménos pasion á la ninfa Eucaris, porque hace alguna vez el amor cruel, para nuestro tormento, que amemos poco á quien nos

rance of pleasure, it seldom happens, that by those whom we love we are beloved again : he therefore resolved to make Calypso jealous : and it having been agreed between Eucharis and Telemachus that they would go out together a hunting, Mentor took that opportunity to alarm her. « I have observed, » said he, « that Telemachus has of late been more fond of the chase than I ever knew him before; he seems now to take pleasure in nothing else; and is in love only with mountains and forests. Is the chase also thy favourite pleasure, O goddess! and has he caught this ardour from thee? »

Calypso was so stung by this question, that she could neither dissemble her emotion, nor hide the cause. « This Telemachus, » said she, « whose heroic virtue despised the pleasures that were offered him in the isle of Cyprus, has not been able to withstand the charms of one of my nymphs, who is not remarkable for beauty. How did he dare to boast of having achieved so many wonders! a wretch, whom luxury has rendered sordid and effeminate, and who seems to have been intended by nature for a life of indolence and obscurity among women! » Mentor observed, with pleasure, that Calypso suffered great anguish from her jealousy; and therefore said nothing more to inflame it at that time, lest she should suspect his design; but he assumed a look that expressed dejection and concern. The goddess discovered, without reserve, her uneasiness at all that she saw, and incessantly entertained him with new complaints. The hunting match, to which Mentor had called her attention, exasperated her beyond all bounds; for she knew that Telemachus had nothing in view but to draw Eucharis from the rest of the nymphs, that he might speak to her in private. A second hunting match was proposed soon afterwards, and Calypso knew that it was intended for the same purpose as the first; which being determined to disappoint, she declared that she would be of the party; but her emotion being too violent to be concealed, she suddenly broke out into this reproachful expostulation :

ama mucho. Determinó Mentor cultivar en Calipso los zelos; y habiendo Eucaris de llevar consigo á Telémaco para una caza, valióse de aquel lance, y díxolo á la diosa: He advertido en Telémaco una afición ardiente á la caza, que nunca habia reparado en él: este recreo le empieza á disgustar de los demas, y no quiere sino las selvas mas escabrosas, y las mas frías montañas. ¿ Sois, por ventura, ó diosa! quien le inspira esta ardiente pasión?

Sintió Calipso encenderse en su seno una cruel rabia oyendo tales voces, y no le fué posible contenerla. Este Telémaco, respondió, que ha despreciado todos los placeres de Chipre, no puede resistir á la mediana belleza de una de mis ninfas: ¿ De qué manera pues se osa vanagloriar de haber hecho tantas acciones maravillosas, quien vilmente se dexa vencer de los deleytes, y quien parece que no nació sino para vivir obscuramente en medio de una tropa de mugeres? Viendo condolido Mentor lo que conmovian los zelos al pecho de Calipso, no le dixo otra cosa, por temor de que desconfiára tambien de él: solamente mostró un rostro melancólico, y afligido. Lamentábase la diosa de todo lo que veia ella misma, y continuamente le hacia alguna nueva queja. Aquella caza, de que Mentor la habia noticiado, la acabó finalmente de enfiurecer. Bien supo que Telémaco, para hablar con Eucaris, no habia procurado sino apartarse de las otras ninfas; y hablábase tambien de una segunda caza, en la qual prevenia, que volveria á hacer lo que hizo en la primera. Para que no ligaran estas ideas, declaró, que queria tambien salir ella á cazar; y luego de repente, no pudiendo refrenar mas la cólera, se explicó así con Telémaco:

« Is it thus then, presumptuous boy ! that thou hast made my dominions an asylum from the resentment of Neptune, and the righteous vengeance of the gods ? Hast thou entered this island, which mortals are forbidden to approach, only to defy my power, and despise my love ? — Hear me, ye gods of the celestial and infernal world ! let the sufferings of an injured deity awaken your vengeance ! Overtake this perfidious, this ungrateful, this impious mortal, with swift destruction ! — Since thy obduracy and injustice are greater than thy father's, may thy sufferings also be longer and more severe ; may thy country be forever hidden from thy eyes, that wretched, that despicable country, which, in the folly of thy presumption, thou hast, without a blush, preferred to immortality with me ! or rather, mayst thou perish, when in the distant horizon it first rises before thee ; mayst thou then, plunged in the deep, be driven back, the sport of the waves, and cast lifeless upon these sands, which shall deny thee burial ! May my eyes see the vultures devour thee ! they shall see them ; and she whom thou lovest shall see them also ; she shall see them with despair and anguish, and her misery shall be my delight ! »

While Calypso was thus speaking, her whole countenance was suffused with rage ; there was a gloomy fierceness in her looks, which continually hurried from one object to another ; her lips trembled, a livid circle surrounded them, and her colour, which was sometimes pale as death, changed every moment : her tears, which she had been used to shed in great plenty, now ceased to flow ; as if despair and rage had dried up their source ; and her voice was hoarse, tremulous, and interrupted.

Mentor remarked all the changes of her emotion ; but said nothing more to Telemachus : he treated him as a man infected with an incurable disease, to whom it was in vain to administer remedies ; but he frequently regarded him with a look that strongly expressed his compassion.

Telemachus was sensible of his weakness, and conscious that he was unworthy of the friendship of Men-

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¿De suerte, ó joven temerario, que has llegado á mi isla huyendo del justo naufragio, que Neptuno te prevenia, y la venganza que en tí los dioses querian justamente executar? No has entrado en esta isla, á ningun hombre abierta, sino para despreciar mi poder, y el cariño que te he mostrado. Oid, dioses del cielo, y del abismo, á una infelice diosa: daos prisa á confundir á este sacrilego, este ingrato, este pérfido. Pues sois aun mas injusto y cruel que vuestro padre, ruego al cielo, que vos sufraís males mucho mas crueles, y prolixos que él. Que no veais jamas á vuestra patria, la pobre, y miserable isla de Ilica, que no os avergonzais de anteponer á la inmortalidad que yo os brindaba, sino que perezcais en medio de ese golfo, viéndola desde léjos; y que vuestro cuerpo, hecho ultrage de las furiosas ondas sea otra vez arrojado á la arena de estas riveras, sin esperanza alguna de sepulcro. Que lo vean mis ojos comido de los buytres; y lo vea tambien aquella que tanto estima: ella lo verá, y sentirá destrozarse el corazon, formando en su desdicha la felicidad de Calypso.

Miéntas hablaba asi, tenia acalorados, y centelleando los ojos: no fixaba la vista en parte alguna, y tenia no sé qué turbacion y ferocidad: templando sus mexillas, estaban matizadas de ciertas manchas negras, y amarillas: mudaba cada instante de color, y muchas veces se explicaba en su rostro una palidez de cadáver. No rompian las lágrimas como al principio á arroyos, sino una, ú otra muy rara. Parece que la rabia, y el despecho habian agotado la fuente. La voz salia ronca, trémula, é interrumpida.

Observaba Mentor todos sus movimientos, y no decia cosa á Telémaco. Tratábale como enfermo desesperado, que se abandona, y solo con frecuencia le echaba alguna ojeada por compasion.

Bien conocia Telémaco quanta culpa tenia, y cuánto era indigno de la amistad de Menter: no osaba alzar

tor : he kept his eyes fixed upon the ground , not daring to look up , lest he should meet those of his monitor , by whose very silence he was condemned : he was often ready to throw himself upon his neck , and at once to confess and renounce his folly ; but he was sometimes restrained by a false shame , and sometimes by a consciousness that his profession would not be sincere ; and a secret fondness for a situation , which , though he knew to be dangerous , was yet so pleasing , that he could not resolve to quit it.

In the mean time the deities assembled upon Olympus , kept their eyes fixed , in silent suspense , upon the island of Calypso , to see the issue of this contest between Venus and Minerva. Cupid , who like a playful child , had been caressed by all the nymphs in their turns , had set every breast on fire ; Minerva , under the form of Mentor , had availed herself of that jealousy which is inseparable from love , to preclude its effects ; and Jupiter resolved to sit neuter between them.

Eucharis , who feared that Telemachus might escape from her chains , practised a thousand arts to detain him. She was now ready to go out with him to the second chase , as had been agreed upon between them , and had dressed herself like Diana ; and the deities of love and beauty had , by a mutual effort ; improved her charms , which were now superior even to those of Calypso. Calypso beheld her at a distance ; and seeing her own reflection also in a fountain near which she stood , the comparison filled her with grief and shame : she hid herself in the innermost recess of her grotto , and gave herself up to these reflections :

« I have then vainly endeavoured to interrupt the pleasure of these lovers , by declaring that I would go with them to the chase : shall I still go ! Alas ! shall I be a foil to her beauties ? shall I increase her triumph and his passion ; Wretch that I am , what have I done ? I will not go ; nor shall they : I know well how to prevent them. If I entreat Mentor to quit the island with his friend , he will immediately conduct him to Ithaca. But what do I say ! When Telemachus is departed , what will become of Calypso ! Where am I !

los ojos, por miedo de encontrar los del amigo, cuyo silencio mismo lo condenaba. Ofreciásele alguna vez arrojarle al cuello, y mostrarle quanto pesar tenia de su error; mas deteniale ya una condenable vergüenza, ya el miedo de hacer demasiado sobre lo que queria, para salir del riesgo porque el peligro mismo le parecia dulce, y no podia aun resolverse á vencer totalmente su desatinada pasión.

Los dioses, y las diosas celestiales con profundo silencio miraban fixamente la isla de Calipso, por ver entre Minerva y Cupido, quien de los dos se llevaria el triunfo. Cupido, jugueteando con las Ninfas, habia puesto fuego á la isla toda. Minerva bajo el traje de Mentor, manejaba los zelos, afecto inseparable del amor, y contra el amor mismo. Jove habia resuelto ser espectador de una contienda tal sin declararse á una, ni á otra parte.

Eucaris entre tanto, temiendo que Telémaco se le huyese, usaba de mil artes para mantenerlo en sus lazos. Estaba á punto ya para salir con él á la segunda caza, y habíase vestido del traje de Diana. Cupido, y Venus la habian adornado de mil primores; de suerte, que la suya en aquel dia obscurecia aun á la beldad de Calipso. Esta mirándola desde lejos, se vió tambien á sí propia en el cristal risueño de una fuente y tuvo vergüenza de verse: con que escondiéndose en lo mas hondo de su gruta, habló consigo á solas de este modo.

¿Luego no me aprovecha nada haber querido es-
torbar á estos dos amantes, habiendo declarado, que
quiero yo tambien concurrir á la caza? ¿He de con-
currir pues? ¿Iré á hacerla triunfar, y hacer ostenta-
cion de mi belleza, para que me afrente la suya?
¿Sin duda que Telémaco, al mirarme, dará nuevos
esfuerzos á la aficion con que idolatra á Eucaris? ¿Des-
dichada de mí! ¿Qué cosa podré hacer? No, saldré
yo á la caza; pero ni saldrán ellos. Yo sabré hallar el
medio de impedirles este gusto, y este ultrage mio.

what shall I do ! — O cruel Venus ! O Venus , thou hast deceived me ; thou hast betrayed me with a fatal gift ! — Pernicious boy ! I opened my heart to thee , seduced by the pleasing hope that thou wouldst introduce felicity ; but thou hast perfidiously filled it with anguish and despair. My nymphs have combined against me ; and my divinity serves only to perpetuate my sufferings. O that I could put an end to my being and my sufferings together ! But I cannot die ; and therefore, Telemachus , thou shalt not live ! I will revenge myself of thy ingratitude ; the nymph , who is the partner of thy crime , shall be the witness of thy punishment : and in her presence will I strike thee to the heart. But I rave : O unhappy Calypso ! what wouldst thou do ? Wouldst thou destroy the guiltless youth whom ~~thou~~ ^{she} hast already made wretched ? It is I that have kindled , in the chaste bosom of Telemachus , a guilty flame. How pure was his innocence , and how uniform his virtue ! how noble his detestation of vice , how heroic his disdain of inglorious pleasure ! Why did I taint so immaculate a breast ? He would have left me , alas ! And must he not leave me now ? or , since he lives but for my rival , if he stays ; must he not stay only to despise me ? But I have merited the misery that I suffer ! — Go then , Telemachus ! again let the seas divide us ; go , and leave Calypso without consolation , unable to sustain the burden of life ; unable to lay it down in the grave ! Leave me , without consolation , overwhelmed with shame , and despoiled of hope , the victim of remorse , and the scorn of Eucharis ! «

Thus she sighed alone in the obscurity of her grotto : but , the next moment , starting suddenly from her seat , she ran out with a furious impetuosity : « Where art thou , Mentor , » says she , « is it thus that thy wisdom sustains Telemachus against the mischief that is even now ready to overwhelm him ? thou sleepest while love is vigilant against thee. I can bear this slothful indifference no longer ! Wilt thou always see the son of the great Ulysses dishonour his birth , and forego the advantages of his fortune , with this

Voy á ver á Mentor : rogaréle , que se lleve á Telémaco de este lugar , y él le restituirá á su patria. ¿ Mas qué digo ? O qué haré despues de partirse Telémaco ? ¿ Dónde estoy ? ¿ Qué me queda que hacer , desapiadada Venus ? Tú , ó Venus , me has burlado. ¿ O qué dádiva tan funesta que me hiciste ! nocivo niño , venenoso amor , no te abrí yo mi corazon sino por la esperanza de vivir feliz en compañía de Telémaco ; y tú no me has traído sino turbacion , y despecho. Mis ninfas se me han vuelto contra mí , y mi divinidad ya no me sirve sino de hacer eterna mi desgracia. ¿ O si para fenecer , mi dolor me pudiera acabar la vida ! Menester es , Telémaco , que tú mueras , supuesto que no puedo morir yo. Vengaréme de tus ingratitudes : verálo bien tu ninfa : te atravesaré en su presencia. Pero tú eres injusta , Calipso desgraciada. ¿ Quieres por suerte hacer que un inocente muera , á quien tú misma has arrojado en este abismo grande de desventuras. Yo he sido quien ha puesto en el seno del honesto Telémaco la fatal llama. ¿ Qué inocencia ! ¿ Qué virtud ! ¿ Qué odio contra el vicio ! ¿ Qué denuedo contra los afrentosos placeres ! ¿ Por ventura era bien que envenenara yo su corazon ? Me hubiera abandonado , si no lo executaba. ¿ Pero no será tal vez fuerza que me abandone , ó que me véa yo despreciada , no viviendo él sino solamente para mi rival ? No , no , no sufro sino lo que sobrado me he merecido. Partid , Telémaco : idos de allá del mar : dexad sin consuelo á Calipso , y en estado de no poder sufrir la vida , ni de encontrar la muerte : dexadla sin alivio , llena de vergüenza , y desesperada , juntamente con vuestra altiva Eucaris.

Así hablaba á solas entre sí en la gruta ; y saliendo impetuosamente , y de improviso , dixo : ¿ A dónde estais ; Mentor ? ¿ Así defendeis á Telémaco contra el vicio á que se rinde todo ? Dormis , mientras que amor vela contra vosotros ; pero yo no puedo sufrir mas esta vil indiferencia que vos mostrais. ¿ Siempre habeis de mirar , sin darle algun castigo , que deshonne á su padre el hijo del grande Ulises , y que descuide de las altas empresas á que lo conduce el destino ? ¿ A quién confiáron sus padres el cuidado de su enseñanza , á

negligent tranquillity? It is to thy care, and not mine, that his friends have committed him; wilt thou then sit idle while I am busy for his preservation? The remotest part of this forest abounds in tall poplars, of which a commodious vessel may easily be built; in that place Ulysses himself built the vessel in which he set sail from this island; and, in that place, you will find a deep cave, which contains all the implements that are necessary for the work.

She had no sooner given Mentor this intelligence, than she repented of it; but he lost not a moment to improve it. He hasted immediately to the cave, found the implements, felled the trees, and in one day constructed a vessel fit for the sea; for, to Minerva, a short time was sufficient for a great work.

Calypso, in the mean time, suffered the most tormenting anxiety and suspense: she was; at the same time, impatient to know what Mentor would do in consequence of her information, and unable to bear the thought of leaving Telemachus and Eucharis at full liberty, by quitting the chase. Her jealousy would not permit her to lose sight of the lovers; and therefore she contrived to lead the hunters towards that part of the forest where she supposed Mentor would be at work. She soon thought she heard the strokes of the axe and the mallet; she listened, and every blow that she heard made her tremble; yet she was distracted in the very moment of attention by her fears, that some amorous intimation, some sigh, or some glance, between Telemachus and Eucharis, might escape her notice.

Eucharis, at the same time, thought fit to rally her lover: « Are not you afraid, » says she, « that Mentor will chide you for going to the chase without him? What a pity it is that you have so severe a master! He has an austerity that nothing can soften; he affects to despise pleasure himself, and therefore interdicts it to you, not excepting even the most innocent amusements. It might, indeed, be proper for you to submit to his direction before you was able to govern yourself; but after you have given such proofs of wis-

mi, ó á vos? ¿ Yo solicito el modo de sanarlo, y no haréis vos cosa alguna? En el mas retirado sitio de esa gran selva hay elevadas plantas para fabricar los baxeles, y ahí Ulises hizo tambien el suyo; de que se sirvió para salir de la isla. En el mismo lugar hallaréis una honda caberna, donde hay todos los instrumentos necesarios para cortar, pulir, y juntar entre sí las partes de una nave.

Apénas dixo, quando se arrepintió de haber dicho estas voces. Mentor no perdió ni un momento: fuese á la caverna, halló los instrumentos, echo á tierra los árboles, y en solo un dia labró perfectamente un baxel; porque el poder, é industria de Minerva no han menester mucho tiempo para perfeccionar los mas grandes trabajos.

Encontrése Calipso en un horrible caimiento de ánimo. De una parte quería ver si el trabajo de Mentor se adelantaba, y de otra no podia reducirse á dexar la caza; en la qual Eucaris estaria con libertad plenísima como Telémaco. No le permitiéron los zelos perder jamas de vista á los dos amantes; mas procuraba conducir la caza ácia aquel puesto, donde sabia que estaba empleado Mentor en fabricar la Nave. Oía los golpes del martillo, y del destal, y tenia el oido atento á aquella parte, poniéndose en cuidado á qualquier eco; pero al mismo tiempo temia que esta diversion no la dexara observar alguna seña, ó alguna ojeada de Telémaco á su adorada ninfa.

Miéntas tanto Eucaris decia á Telémaco, como burlando de él: ¿ No temeis que Mentor os reprehenda, porque sin él habeis salido á caza? ¿ O cuánto merecis la compasion, mientras vivis como un maestro tan enfadoso! No teneis cosa que aproveché para templar la autoridad que logra sobre vos. El afecta ser enemigo de todos los placeres, y no puede sufrir que gustéis alguno, imputandoos á delito aun aquellas cosas, que tal vez son las mas inocentes. Podiais bien depender de él, miéntas no estabais aun en estado de regu-

dom, you ought no longer to suffer yourself to be treated like a child. »

This subtle reproach stung Telemachus to the heart ; he felt a secret indignation against Mentor, and an impatient desire to throw off his yoke : yet he was still afraid to see him ; and his mind was in such agitation , that he made the nymph no reply. The hunt , during which all parties had felt equal constraint and uneasiness , being now over , they returned home by that part of the forest where Mentor had been all day at work. Calypso saw the vessel finished at a distance : and a thick cloud , like the shades of death , fell instantly upon her eyes ; her knees trembled , she was covered with a cold sweat , and obliged to support herself by leaning on the nymphs , that surrounded her ; among whom Eucharis pressing to assist her , she pushed her back with a frown of indignation and disdain.

Telemachus , who saw the vessel , but not Mentor , who had finished his work and was retired , asked Calypso to whom it belonged , and for what purpose it was intended ? She could not answer him immediately ; but at length she told him it was to send away Mentor , whom she had directed to build it for that purpose. « You , » said she , « shall be no longer distressed by the austerity of that severe censor , who opposes your happiness , and would become jealous of your immortality. »

« To send away Mentor ! » said Telemachus : « if he forsakes me I am undone ; if he forsakes me , whom shall I have left , Eucharis , but thee ? » Thus , in the unguarded moment of surprise and love , the secret escaped him in words , which his heart prompted , and of which he did not consider the import. He discovered his indiscretion the moment it was too late : the whole company was struck dumb with confusion ; Eucharis blushed ; and , fixing her eyes upon the ground , stood behind the crowd , not daring to appear : but though shame glowed upon her cheek : yet joy revelled at her heart. Telemachus so far lost his

laros por vos mismo á solas ; pero despues que ya habeis mostrado tanta prudencia , no hay razon de dexaros tratar como si fuerais niño.

Estas cautelosas palabras penetráron el corazon de Telémaco , y le llenáron de enfado contra Mentor , cuyo yugo queria sacudir : sin embargo , temia volver á verle : y era tanta su turbacion , que aunque lo procuraba la Ninfa , no le daba respuesta alguna. Finalmente al anochecer , habiéndose ocupado en la caza por una , y otra parte con una violencia continua , volviéron por un ángulo de la selva , muy proximo al sitio donde Mentor habia trabajado aquel dia. Vió Calipso de léjos concluido el baxel : cubrióla entónces repentinamente los ojos una densa nube , semejante á la sombra de la muerte : ni pudo sostenerse en sí misma , corriéndole un sudor frio por los miembros de su cuerpo. Esto la precisó á apoyarse en las Ninfas , que la cercaban ; pero alargando Eucaris su mano á sostenerla , ella la desvió , echándole á ese tiempo una espantosa ojeada.

Telémaco vió el baxel , pero no vió á Mentor , porque se habia ya retirado concluido el trabajo , y preguntó á la diosa : ¿ De quién era aquel baxel , y para quién estaba destinado ? No pudo responder luego Calipso ; pero al cabo de algun espacio le dixo : Yo he hecho fabricarle para que se avie Mentor : no os estorvará mas este severo amigo , que se opone á vuestra fortuna , y que entraria en zelos , si llegaseis á ser inmortal.

¿ Mentor me dexa ? Yo soy perdido , dixo Telémaco levantando la voz. Si Mentor me dexa , Eucaris , yo no tengo sino á vos. Estas voces se le escapáron en el impetu de la pasion , y vió bien el error que habia cometido en decirlas ; mas no le quedó libre el tiempo para pensar lo que decia. Calló asombrada toda la tropa. Eucaris se llenó de rubor , y baxando los ojos , se estaba retirada , sin tener aliento para dexarse ver ; pero miéntras que la vergüenza hacia en el semblante su oficio , hacia tambien el suyo en lo intimo del corazon la alegría. Telémaco no se conocia á sí mismo , y no podia creer , que habia hablado tan indiscreta-

recollection, that he scarce knew what he had done; the whole appeared to him like a dream; but it was like a dream of confusion and trouble.

Calypso instantly quitted the place; and, transported with rage, made her way through the forest with a hasty and disordered pace, following no track, and not knowing whither she was going: at length, however, she found herself at the entrance of her grotto, where Mentor was waiting her return. « Begone, » said she, « from this island, O stranger! who art come hither only to interrupt my peace! Begone, thou hoary dotard! with that infatuated boy, and be assured, that if he is found another hour within my dominions, thou shalt know the power of a deity to punish. I will see him no more; nor will I suffer my nymphs to have any farther intercourse with him, this I swear by the waters of the Styx, an oath at which the inhabitants of eternity tremble! But thou: Telemachus, shalt know that thy sufferings are yet but begun. I dismiss thee from this island; but it is only to new misfortunes: I will be revenged; and thou shalt regret the abuse of my bounty in vain. Neptune still resents the injury which he received from thy father in Sicily; and, solicited by Venus, whose worship thou hast since despised in the isle of Cyprus, he is now preparing to excite new tempests against thee. Thou shalt see thy father, who is not dead; but, when thou seest him, thou shalt not know him; and, though thou shalt meet him in Ithaca, thou shalt first suffer the severest persecutions of fortune. Be gone! I conjure the celestial deities to revenge me! Mayest thou be suspended in the middle of the deep, by the crag of some solitary and naked rock! There may the thunder strike thee from above; and there mayest thou invoke Calypso, who shall scorn thy repentance, and enjoy thy punishment! »

But the rage of Calypso evaporated with the very breath that expressed it, and the desire of retaining Telemachus revived in her bosom. « Let him live, » said she to herself, « and let him live here? Perhaps, in time, he will learn to set a just value upon my friendship, and reflect that Eucharis has no imper-

mente, pareciéndole lo que habia obrado como si fuera un sueño; pero un sueño, que le dexaba totalmente turbado, y confundido.

Mas furiosa Calipso que una leona, á quien robaron sus tiernos cachorrillos, corrió al través de la selva, sin seguir senda alguna, y sin saber adonde sus mismos pasos la conducian. Hallóse finalmente en la puerta de su gruta, donde estaba Mentor para aguardarla. Salid, les dixo, luego de mi isla, extrangeros, que habeis venido á alterar mi quietud. Aléxese de mí ese insensato jóven; y vos, viejo imprudente, conoceréis lo que puede la cólera de una diosa, si no le sacais luego de este lugar. No quiero verle mas: no quiero tolerarle, ni sufrir que le hable, ó que le mire alguna de mis Ninfas: júrolo por las aguas de la Stigia, juramento que suele estremecer hasta á los mismos dioses. Pero sabe, ó Telémaco, que no se han acabado tus males: ingrato, no saldrás de esta isla sino para arrojarte á nuevas desventuras. Yo quedaré vengada, y te pesará, pero en vano, haber perdido á Calipso. Neptuno aun irritado contra tu padre, que le ofendió en Sicilia, y instigado de Venus, á quien despreciastes en Chipre, te previenen nuevas borrascas. Verás si á tu padre, que aun no ha muerto, pero sin que él te conozca: ni os juntaréis en Itaca, sino despues de haber sido juguete lastimoso de la mas cruel fortuna. Yo conjuro al poder de los celestes dioses, que me quieran vengar. Aun puede ser que en medio del espantoso golfo, pendiente de la punta de algun escollo, y herido de algun rayo, llames vanamente á Calipso, que se mostrará sorda á tus ruegos, y ufana de saber tu castigo.

Despues de estas palabras, su ánimo turbulento volvía á disponerse á entrar en contrario partido del que habia una vez tomado, y volvió á mover el amor en ella el deseo de tener á Telémaco. Viva, y deténgase, decia entre sí misma: por ventura despues conocerá lo que he hecho por él. Eucaris no puede ha-

talities to bestow. But, alas! I have ensnared myself by an inviolable oath; it has bound me with everlasting bonds; and the irremediable waters of Styx, by which I have sworn, preclude for ever the return of hope! While these thoughts passed silently in her bosom, the characteristics of all the furies were impressed upon her countenance, and all the pestilential vapours of Cocytus seemed to exhale from her heart.

Her whole appearance struck Telemachus with horror; she instantly perceived it; for what is hidden from the perspicacity of love? and the discovery added new violence to her phrenzy. She suddenly started away from the place where she stood, with all the fury that inspires the votaries of Bacchus when their shouts echo from the mountains of Thrace, she rushed into the woods with a javelin in her hand, calling all her nymphs to follow her, and threatening to pierce those who should stay behind: terrified at this menace, they thronged round her, and Eucharis among the rest, her eyes swimming in tears, and her last look directed to Telemachus, to whom she did not dare to speak. The goddess trembled when she approached her; and was so far from being softened by her submission, that she burned with new rage, when she perceived that affliction itself only heightened her beauty.

Telemachus was now left alone with Mentor: and, after a short interval of silence and confusion, he threw himself on the ground; and embraced his knees: he did not dare to throw himself on his neck, or even to lift up his eyes upon him. He burst into tears: he attempted to speak, but his voice failed him; and he was yet more at a loss for words; he knew not what he ought to do, what he did, or what he would do: but at length he cried out — « O more than father! O Mentor! deliver me from the evils that surround me! I can neither forsake nor follow you: deliver me from evils that are worse than death: deliver me from myself; put an end to my being! »

Mentor embraced him, comforted and encouraged him; and, without soothing his passion, reconciled him to life. « O son of the wise Ulysses! » said he,

cerlo inmortal como lo puedo yo. Mas, ó Calipso, de masiado ciega, tú con tu juramento te has hecho traicion á tí misma. Ya has formado el empeño, y la Stigia por quien juraste, no te permite ya esperanza alguna. Ninguno oia estas palabras; pero su interna furia se dejaba ver retratada en el semblante, y parecia que exhalaba del corazon el veneno pestífero del infierno.

Horrorizóse Telémaco, y bien lo advirtió ella, porque ¿Qué cosa no adivinan los celos? Y el horror de Telémaco le redobló el furor. De la manera que una Bacante, que llena todo el ayre de alaridos, y hace resonar las montañas de Tracia, tomó carrera con un dardo en la mano al traves de la selva, convocando las Ninfas, y amenazando atravesar á aquellas que no la querian seguir. Espantadas con la amenaza, corrieron de tropel todas ellas. Corre Eucaris tambien, corriendo en sus mexillas las lágrimas, y mira desde lejos á Telémaco, á quien ya no se atreve á hablar. Se estremió la diosa, viendola á su lado; y en lugar de aplacarse con la sumision de la Ninfa, se conmovió de un nuevo furor, viendo que la afliccion daba nuevo realce á su belleza.

Entré tanto quedó Telémaco á solas con Mentor: empezóle á abrazar los pies, porque no se atrevia á abrazarle de otra manera, ni aun á mirarle: derramaba arroyos de lágrimas: queria hablarle, pero le faltaba la voz, y faltaban mucho mas las palabras: no sabia qué hacerse, ni lo que debia hacer, ni aun lo que queria: finalmente exclamó de está suerte: Defendedme, Mentor, ó padre mio, de tan grandes males. Yo no puedo dexaros, ni seguiros: defendedme de tantos males, libradme de mí mismo, dadme, si os parece, la muerte.

Abrazóle Mentor, consolóle, esforzóle, y le enseñó á sufrir á sí mismo, sin lisonjear sus pasiones, y le dixo: Hijo del sabio Ulises, tan amado de las deida-

« whom the gods have so highly favoured, and whom they favour still; the very sufferings of which thou art now complaining are new testimonies of their love: He who has never felt the strength of his passions, and his own weakness, is not yet acquainted with wisdom; he is not yet acquainted with himself; nor is he aware how little his own heart is to be trusted. The gods have led thee, as it were, by the hand, to the brink of destruction; they have shewed thee the depth of the abyss, but they have not suffered thee to fall in: secure now the knowledge which otherwise thou couldst never have acquired; and improve that experience, without which it would have been in vain to tell thee of the treachery of love, who flatters only to destroy, and who conceals the keenest anguish under the appearance of delight. Thou hast now seen, and known, this lovely, this perfidious boy; he came hither blooming in immortal beauty, and all was mirth and sport, elegance and dissipation; he stole away thy heart, and thou hadst pleasure in permitting the theft; yet didst thou wish to persuade thyself that it was still thy own. Thou wast solicitous to deceive me, and to flatter thyself; and thou art now gathering the fruits of thy indiscretion. Thou art importuning me to take away thy life; and that I will comply, is the only hope that lingers in thy breast; the goddess is transformed, by the violence of her passions, to an infernal fury; Eucharis is tormented by a flame less tolerable than the pains of death; and among the other nymphs of Calypso, Jealousy has scattered her plagues with an unsparing hand. Such are the exploits of that boy, whose appearance was so gentle and lovely! How greatly, then, art thou beloved by the gods, who have opened a way for thee to fly from him, and return to thy country, the object not of a blameless only, but a noble passion! Calypso is herself compelled to drive thee hence: the vessel is ready; call up, then, all thy courage, and let us make haste to quit this island, where it is certain that virtue can never dwell. »

Mentor, while he was yet speaking, took Telemachus by the hand, and led him towards the shore.

des, que aun no os dexan de amar, siendo efecto de su amor el sufrir que cometais faltas tan graves: no es todavía sabio el que no llegó á conocer su debilidad propia, y la violencia de sus pasiones; porque no se conoce aun, ni sabe desconfiar de sí mismo. Los dioses os han conducido, como por la mano, hasta la horrible boca del abismo, para mostraros su profundidad; pero no han permitido que cayerais dentro. Aprended pues ahora lo que jamas hubierais aprendido, sino lo hubierais experimentado. En vano se os hubiera hablado de las traiciones del amor, que deslumbran á los hombres para arruinarlos, y que baxo una aparienciade dulzura ocultan la amargura mas espantosa. Ha venido ese niño entre la risa, los juegos, y las gracias: lo habeis visto: él os ha arrebatado el corazon, y vos os habeis deleitado, dexandooslo robar. Vos buscabais pretextos para no resentiros de la herida de vuestro pecho: buscabais modo para engañarme, y lisonjearos vos mismo, y no teniais miedo á cosa alguna. Mirad ahora el fruto de vuestra temeridad: pedid la muerte, que es la única esperanza que os queda. La diosa conmovida parece una furia infernal. Eucaris arde con fuego mas cruel que todos los dolores de la muerte; y todas estas Ninfas, rabiosas con los zelos, estan para despedazarse entre sí propias: esto es aquello que acostumbra hacer el traydor Cupido, que parece tan apacible. Recobrad pues todo el perdido aliento. ¡O cuánto os aman los dioses! pues os abren tan buen camino para huir de las asechanzas de amor, y restituiros á la amada patria. Calypso misma está ahora obligada á despediros: ya el baxel está á punto. ¡Porqué nos detenemos en dexar esta isla, donde no tiene sitio la virtud en que poder habitar?

Discurriendo de esta manera, Mentor le tomó por la mano, y lo tiraba ácia la rivera. Apenas le seguía

Telemachus consented with silent reluctance, and looked behind him at every step. Eucharis was still in sight, though at a considerable distance; and not being able to see her face, he gazed at her fine hair, which, tied in a lock, played gracefully behind her, and at her loose light robe that flowed negligently in the wind; he remarked the easy majesty of her gait, and could have kissed the mark of her footsteps on the ground. When his eye could no longer reach her; he listened; and he persuaded himself that he heard her voice: he still saw her, though she was absent: his fancy realized her image: and he thought that he was talking with her, not knowing where he was, nor hearing any thing that was said by Mentor.

But, at length, awaking as from a dream — «Mentor,» said he, «I am resolved to follow you, but I have not yet taken leave of Eucharis: and I would rather perish than abandon her with ingratitude! Stay only till I see her once more; stay only till I bid her farewell for ever. Let me tell her, that the gods, jealous of my felicity, compel me to depart; but that they shall sooner put a period to my life, than blot her from my remembrance. O my father! grant me this last, this most reasonable request; or destroy me this moment, and let me die at your feet; I have no desire to continue in this island; nor will I give up my heart to love: it is, indeed, a stranger to the passion; for all that I feel for Eucharis amounts but to friendship and gratitude. I desire only to bid her farewell, and I will then follow you without a moment's delay.»

«My son,» replied Mentor, «my pity for you is more than I can express: your passion is so violent, that you are not sensible it possesses you; you imagine yourself to be in a state of tranquillity, even while you are adjuring me to take away your life. You declare that you are not under the influence of love, while you feel yourself unable to quit the object of your passion; while you see and hear her only, and are blind and deaf to all besides: so the wretch, whom a fever has rendered delirious, tells you he is not sick. Your understanding is blinded by desire:

Telémaco , volviendo siempre el rostro ácia lo que dexaba. Tenia el pensamiento en la Ninfa , que se alexaba de él : no pudiendo mirar su rostro , veia sus hermosos cabellos , su ropage ondofo , y su noble ayre de caminar ; y quisiera poder besar las huellas , que ella dexaba impresas con sus pasos. Aun quando la llegó á perder de vista ; se imaginaba percibir su voz , y tenia atento el oido para escucharla. Veíala , aunque de léjos , teníala pintada , y como viva delante de sus ojos ; y figurábase tambien que la hablaba , no sabiendo ya dónde estaba , ni pudiendo atender á las palabras que decia Mentor.

Finalmente vuelto en sí mismo , como de un letargo profundo : Yo he resuelto seguiros , le dixo , mas no me he despedido de Eucaris : quisiera ántes morir , que abandonarla con tanta ingratitud. Esperadme que yo la vuelva á ver esta última vez , y me despida de ella para siempre : permitidme á lo ménos que la diga : Los dioses crueles , ó Ninfa , los dioses , zelosos de mi felicidad , me obligan á separarme de vos ; pero primero harán que acabe con mi vida , que con vuestra memoria. Dexadme , padre , este solo consuelo , que es tan justo , ó quitadme la vida en este instante. No , no quiero quedarme en esta isla , ni darme por despojo al amor ; no vive esa pasion en mi pecho , y no mantengo en él sino un afecto atento , y el reconocimiento á la Ninfa. Básteme el poderla decir á dios una vez sola , y partiré con vos sin mas tardanza.

¡ O cuánto me compadezco de vos ! le respondió Mentor. Tan furiosa es vuestra pasion , que no la conocéis. Os parece estar sosegado , y pedis la muerte : os atreveis á decir , que no os ha vencido el amor , y no podeis separaros de la Ninfa , que idolatrais : no veis , ni ois otra cosa que á ella , estais ciego , y sordo á todo lo demas. Un hombre á quien la fiebre vuelve frenético , no puede persuadirse de que está enfermo. Vos estabais dispuesto , ó ciego Telémaco , á olvidaros de Penélope , que os aguarda , de Ulises , á quien veréis , de Itaca donde habeis de reynar , de la gloria y

you are ready to renounce Penelope, who expects you in Ithaca; and Ulysses, whom you shall certainly see again at your return; and to whose throne you are to succeed. You would give up all the glory which the gods have promised, and confirmed by the miracles which they have wrought in your behalf, to live with Eucharis in obscurity and disgrace; and yet you pretend that your attachment to her is not the effect of love! What is it but love that troubles you? what but love has made you weary of life? and what else produced the transport that betrayed your secret to Calypso? I do not accuse you of insincerity; but I pity your delusion. Fly, fly, O Telemachus! for love is conquered only by flight: against such an enemy, true courage consists in fear and retreat; in retreat without deliberation, and without looking back. You cannot have forgotten the tender anxieties you have cost me from your earliest infancy, nor the dangers which my counsel has enabled you to avoid; why, then, will you distrust me now? Believe me, or let me leave you to your fate. You know not the anguish that my heart has felt to see you rush forward in the path of destruction; you know not what I secretly suffered when I did not dare to speak to you: your mother felt not a severer pang at your birth. I was silent; and suppressed even my sighs, in the fond hope that you would at length return to me without admonition or reproof. O my son! restore to me that which is dearer than life; give me thyself: and be once more mine and thy own. If reason shall at length prevail over passion, I shall live; and my life shall be happy: but if, in the contest with passion, reason shall give way, my happiness is at an end, and I can live no longer. »

During this discourse, Mentor continued to advance towards the sea; and Telemachus, who had not yet sufficient resolution to have followed him, was yet so far influenced as to suffer himself to be led forward without resistance. Minerva, in this crisis of his fate, still concealed under the form of Mentor, covered him invisibly with her shield, and infused round him the divine radiance of uncreated light; its influence

altas empresas que os han prometido los dioses por medio de tan grandes prodigios, como han hecho en favor vuestro : ¿Renunciabais á todos estos bienes, por vivir sin honra con Eucaris ; y diréis aún que la teneis afecto , pero no amor ? ¿ Qué cosa es pues la que os desasosiega ? ¿ Porqué quereis morir ? ¿ Porqué , poco hace hablasteis á la diosa con tanto delirio de afectos ? Lloro vuestra ceguera ; mas no os acuso de mala fé. Huid , Telémaco , huid : no puede amor vencerse , sino huyendo. Léjos pues de un tal enemigo , el verdadero esfuerzo consiste en temer y en huir ; pero en huir , sin detenerse aun para dudar , y sin tomarse tiempo para volver á mirar atras , ¿ Se os han huido ya de la memoria los cuidados que me habeis costado , desde vuestra infancia hasta aquí , y los riesgos de que os he librado con mis consejos ? O creedme , ó permitidme que os dexe . ¡ O si supierais bien quán doloroso me es el veros correr á la perdicion ! ¡ O si entendierais lo que he sufrido en el tiempo en que no me he atrevido á hablaros ! La madre que os dió vida , no padeció en su parto tantos dolores como he sufrido yo en estos dias . He estado callando , he tolerado mi quebranto , he ahogado hasta los suspiros , para ver si por vos mismo os resolviais á buscarme de nuevo . Consolad , hijo mio , hijo mio querido , mi corazon : volvedme lo que tengo en mas aprecio que mis entrañas : restituidme á Telémaco , á quien he perdido : vos mismo restituidos á vos . Si la virtud en vos vence á la pasion amorosa , yo vivo , y vivo feliz ; pero si os arrebatla la pasion á despecho de la virtud , ya feneció la vida de Mentor .

Hablaba así Mentor , caminando ácia el mar ; y Telémaco , que no se hallaba aun con suficiente esfuerzo para seguirle por sí mismo , tenia el que bastaba , para sin resistencia dexarse conducir . Minerva siempre oculta debaxo del aspecto de Mentor , cubriendo con su escudo invisiblemente á Telémaco , y cercándole con un rayo de divino auxilio , le hizo sentir un brio , que no habia hasta entónces experimentado , desde

was immediate and irresistible ; and Telemachus was conscious to a strength of mind , which , since he came into the island of Calypso , he had never felt. They came at length to the seashore , which in that place was steep and rocky ; it projected in a cliff , which was broken by the foaming surge below , and which from the top , commanded an extensive prospect of the country : from this promontory they looked to see whether the ship , which had been built by Mentor , was still in the place where they had left it ; and they beheld a scene which , to Mentor at least , was extremely mortifying and distressful.

Love , who was conscious that his shafts could make no impression upon Mentor , now saw him carry off Telemachus , with new pangs of disappointed malignity : he wept with rage and vexation ; and went in search of Calypso , who was wandering about in the most gloomy recesses of the forest. The moment she saw him , a deep sigh escaped her , and she felt every wound in her bosom begin to bleed afresh. « Art thou a goddess ? » said the disdainful boy ; « and dost thou suffer thyself to be denied by a feeble mortal , who is captive in thy dominions ? Why is he suffered to depart with impunity ! » — « O fatal power ! » replied Calypso , « let me no more listen to thy dangerous counsel , which has already seduced me from a state of perfect and delicious tranquillity , and plunged me into an abyss of misery , where thought itself can find no bottom. All counsel is , indeed , too late : I have sworn , by the waters of the Styx , that I will not detain him : and this awful oath , Jupiter himself , the father of the gods , omnipotent and eternal , does not dare to violate. — Depart then , Telemachus , from this island ; depart thou also , pernicious boy ! for my misfortunes are derived rather from thee than from him ! »

Love , drying up his tears , replied with a smile of derision and disdain — « And this oath has left you without an expedient ! Leave the matter , then , to my management. As you have sworn to let Telemachus depart , take no measures to detain him ; but neither I nor you nymphs are bound by your oath. I

que llegó á aquella isla. Llegáron finalmente á un lugar , donde se levantaba la rivera en elevadas peñas , que formaban un precipicio , siempre combatido del mar. Miráron desde aquella eminencia si estaba en el mismo lugar la nave que Mentor con arte , y con trabajo habia prevenido ; pero viéron un espectáculo digno de su dolor.

Cupido estaba vivamente pesaroso de ver que aquel anciano desconocido , no solo era insensible para sus armas , sino que sacaba á Telémaco de su jurisdiccion. Gemia con la saña , y fuese á buscar á Calipso , que andaba vagabunda por lo mas intrincado de las selvas. No pudo ésta mirarle sin gemir , y sintió que le abria nuevamente todas las profundas heridas del corazon. ¿ Vos sois diosa , le dixo el rapaz , y os dexais vencer de un hombre débil , que teneis prisionero en vuestra isla ? ¿ Y porqué le dais lugar para que salga de ella ? Malvado amor , le respondió Calipso , no quiero escuchar mas tus perniciosos consejos : tú eres quien me ha sacado de una profunda , y deliciosa paz , para precipitarme en un abismo de horribles desventuras. No tiene ya remedio : juré ya por la Stigia dexar partir á Telemaco. Júpiter mismo , que es padre de los dioses , no se atreviera con todo su poder á romper tan grave juramento. Sal , Telémaco , de mi isla : sal tú tambien , infame malhechor , que aun me has ocasionado daños mayores que él.

Cupido , sonriéndose con malicia , y con burla le enxugó en este lance el llanto de sus ojos , diciendo al mismo tiempo : Sí , que esto es en verdad un grande estorbo. Dexadme obrar á mí , guardad vuestro juramento , y no os opongais á la ausencia de Telémaco. Ni yo , ni vuestras Ninfas hemos jurado las aguas de

will incite them to burn the vessel that Mentor has so hastily built, and his diligence to circumvent us shall be ineffectual; he also shall be circumvented in his turn, and find himself unexpectedly deprived of all means to rescue Telemachus from your power.”

The voice of Love thus soothed the despair of Calypso, as the breath of the zephyrs, upon the margin of a stream, refreshes the languid flock which are fainting in the burning heat of the summer's sun; the sweet influence of hope and joy was again felt in her breast, her countenance became serene, and her eyes soft and placid; the glooms of care were dissipated for a moment; she stopped, she smiled; and she repaid the flattery of the wanton boy with caresses, which prepared new anguish for her heart.

Cupid, pleased with the success upon Calypso, went to try his influence upon her nymphs; they were scattered about upon the mountains like a flock of sheep, which, pursued by some hungry wolf, had fled far from the shepherd. Having soon got them together — «Telemachus,» says he, «is still in your hands; but if a moment is lost, he will escape you: make haste, then, and set fire to the vessel which the temerity of Mentor has constructed to carry him off!» Torches were now lighted in a moment; they rushed towards the seashore, with the cries and gestures of frantic Bacchanals, their hair dishevelled, and their limbs trembling; the flames spread: the whole vessel was soon in a blaze; and the smoke, intermixed with sheets of fire, rose in a cloudy volume to the sky.

Telemachus and Mentor saw the flames, and heard the cries of the nymphs from the top of the rocks. Telemachus was secretly inclined to rejoice at what had happened; the health of his mind was not yet perfectly restored; and Mentor remarked, that his passion was like a fire not totally extinguished, which, from time to time, gleams from the embers, and frequently throws out sparks with a sudden and unexpected vigour. «Now,» says Telemachus, «our retreat is cut off, and our escape from this island is impossible!»

la Stigia , para permitir que se ausente. Sugeriré á las Ninfas el designio de quemar el baxel , que con tan excesiva diligencia ha construido Mentor. Su prontitud , que os ha sorprendido , le será sin provecho , y á su tiempo él mismo quedará sorprendido : ni le quedará modo alguno con que poderos separar de Telémaco.

Estas engañosas palabras hicieron volver poco á poco la esperanza , y consuelo al pecho de Calipso. Como acostumbra con su frescura el céfiro á la margen de un arroyuelo recrear el ganado enardecido , y casi desmayado por el calor ardiente del verano , así el amor con ese razonamiento apaciguó á la diosa en su despecho. Se serenó el rostro , templáronse sus ojos , y se apartáron léjos por breve espacio los mordaces cuidados , que le roían el corazon. Detúvose , y se puso á reir : acarició á aquel niño festivo , y se preparó en las caricias otros dolores nuevos.

Satisfecho Cupido de haberla persuadido , se fué á encontrar las Ninfas , que andaban vagueando y esparcidas por los fragosos montes , como una manadita de ovejuelas , á quienes hizo huir léjos de su pastor la hambre rabiosa de sangrientos lobos. Juntólas , y las dixo : Ninfas , si estimais á Telémaco , advertid , que le teneis aun en vuestro poder : daos prisa , y quemad el baxel que ha fabricado Mentor para llevarle ; porque á no ejecutarlo de esta suerte , él se os ausentará. Al mismo tiempo encendiéron hachas , corrieron á la playa enfurecidas , levantáron terribles alaridos , y dexaron al ayre sus cabellos , como Bacantes. Ya vuela el fuego , ya consume el baxel , hecho de los leños secos y embreados , y ya borrascas de humo , y de incendios se levantaban hasta las nubes.

Telémaco , y Mentor viéron las llamas de lo alto de aquellas rocas , y al percibir los gritos de las Ninfas iba á alegrarse Telémaco , porque su corazon no estaba todavía bien sano de sus heridas ; y Mentor advertia , que su pasion estaba como el asqua mal apagada , que centelleando bajo de la ceniza , de quando en quando arroja algunas chispas , que dan á fuera señas de que conserva el fuego. Heme aquí pues , dixo Telémaco , otra vez enredado entre mis lazos : no nos queda ahora ya esperanza alguna de dexar esta isla.

Mentor, who perceived that he was relapsing into all his follies, knew that not a moment was to be lost : he saw a vessel lying at anchor at a distance, which did not approach the shore, because it was well known to all pilots that the island of Calypso was inaccessible. This wise guardian of unexperienced youth, therefore, suddenly pushed Telemachus from the top of the rock into the sea, and instantly leaped after him. Telemachus, who was at first stunned by the fall, drank of the briny wave, and became the sport of the surge : but, at length, recovering from his astonishment, and seeing Mentor, who stretched out his hand to assist him in swimming, he thought only how to leave the island at a distance.

The nymphs, who before imagined that they had secured their captives, uttered a dreadful cry when they saw them escape : Calypso, again overwhelmed with despair, retired to her grotto, which she filled with unavailing complaints; and Love, who saw his triumph suddenly changed into a defeat, sprung up into the air; and spreading his wings, took his flight to the groves of Idalia, where he was expected by Venus. The boy, still more cruel than his mother, consoled himself for his disappointment, by laughing; with her, at the mischief they had done.

Telemachus felt, with pleasure, that his fortitude, and his love of virtue, revived as his distance from the fatal island of Calypso increased, « I now, » said he to Mentor, experience what you have told me, but what, if I had not experienced, I could never have believed : « Vice can only be conquered by flight ! » My father, how dear a testimony have the gods given me of their love, by granting me the guidance and protection of thy wisdom ! I deserve, indeed, to be deprived of both ; I deserve to be abandoned to my own folly. I now fear neither seas nor winds ; I apprehend danger only from my passions : love alone is more to be dreaded than all the calamities of shipwreck. »

END OF THE SEVENTH BOOK.

Bien

Bien conoció Mentor que estaba á punto de recaer el jóven en sus primeras flaquezas, y que no habia qué perder un solo instante. Vió de lejos en medio de la mar un baxel parado, que no osaba acercarse, porque sabian todos los pilotos, que la isla de Calipso era inaccessible á los hombres. Repentinamente Mentor impeliendo á Telémaco, que estaba sentado sobre la punta de un gran peñasco, dió con él en el mar, y se arrojó despues en su compañía. Telémaco, asustado de una tan violenta caída, tragó la agua salada, que se le entró por la boca, y pasó á ser juguete de las ondas, hasta que volviendo en sí mismo, y viendo que Mentor le alargaba la mano para ayudarle á nadar, ya no pensó sino en alejarse de aquella isla fatal, de que habian salido.

Las Ninfas, que habian pensado tenerle prisionero, levantáron horribles gritos, no pudiendo impedir ya su fuga. Afligida Calipso se volvió otra vez á su gruta, y toda la llenó de alaridos. Cupido, que vió el triunfo trocado en un vencimiento afrentoso, se levantó en el ayre batiendo sus alas, y huyó volando al ameno bosque de Idalia, en donde le aguardaba su tirana madre. Y el hijo mas cruel que ella, se consoló, riéndose de los males que habia ocasionado.

Al paso que Telémaco se apartaba de la isla, sentia con placer renacerle en el corazon la alegría, el esfuerzo y amor á la virtud. Experimento, le decia á Mentor en alta voz, lo que vos me deciais, y no podia creer por falta de noticias: no se supera el vicio, sino huyéndolo. O padre mio, ¡ó cuánto me han amado los dioses, que me han dado vuestra asistencia! Merecia yo no teneros, y ser abandonado en manos de mí mismo. No temo ahora ya; ni al mar, ni al viento, ni á las tempestades: ya no tengo temor sino de mis pasiones; solo el amor se debe temer mas que todos los naufragios.

FIN DEL LIBRO SEPTIMO.

VOL. I.

L

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK VIII.

ARGUMENT.

THE Vessel appears to be a Tyrian, commanded by Adoam the brother of Narbal, by whom the adventurers are kindly received. Adoam recollects Telemachus, and relates the tragical death of Pygmalion and Astarbe, and the accession of Baëazar, whom the tyrant his father had disgraced at her instigation. During a banquet which he prepares for his guests, Achitoas entertains them with music, which brings the Tritons, the Nereids, and other divinities of the sea in crowds round the vessel: Mentor, taking up a lyre, plays much better than Achitoas. Adoam relates the wonders of Bœtica: he describes the soft temperament of the air, and the beauties of the country, where the utmost simplicity of manners secures to the people uninterrupted tranquillity.

THE vessel which lay at anchor, and which Telemachus and Mentor were approaching, was of Phœnicia, and bound to Epirus. The Phœnicians who were on board, had seen Telemachus in his voyage from Egypt; but he could not be sufficiently distinguished to be known, while he was swimming in the sea. When Mentor was near enough the vessel to be heard, he raised his head above the water, and called out with a loud voice, « Phœnicians! you, who succour alike the distressed of all nations, refuse not your assistance to two strangers, whose life depends upon your humanity: if you have any reverence for the gods, take us on board, and we will accompany you whithersoever you are bound. » The commander of the vessel immediately answered, « We will receive you with joy: it is not necessary that you should be known to us; it suffices that you are men, and in distress. » He gave orders accordingly, and they were taken into the ship.

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO VIII.

SUMARIO.

El Capitan del baxel viendo en el mar dos hombres que le piden socorro, los saca del peligro y los recibe en él. Era Fenicio y hermano de Narbal. Conócense él y Telémaco, y se cuentan mutuamente sus sucesos. Telémaco pregunta por Pigmalion y Astarbé. Nueva descripcion de Pigmalion, el que sin embargo de sus rezelos fue emponzoñado de mano de Astarbé, quien despues se envenenó á sí misma. Adamo capitan del baxel hace un convite espléndido á Telémaco con alegre música. Telémaco no se utreve á divertirse con la música; y toma de eso Mentor ocasion de explicar las diversas especies de placeres, y de cuáles se puede gozar sin miedo. Mentor tañe la lira, y canta los loores de Júpiter, y las desgracias de Narciso y Adonis. Adamo describe despues las costumbres de los pueblos de la Bética.

EL baxel que estaba parado, y á quien se encaminaba, era de unos Fenicios, que navegaban á Epiro. Habian visto á Telémaco en el viage de Egipto; pero no le podian conocer, quando aun en el agua. Quando llegó Mentor tan cerca de ellos, que podian oir su voz, sacando sobre el agua la cabeza, les dixo en alta voz estas palabras: O Fenicios, tan amorosos ácia qualquier nacion, no negueis la vida á dos hombres que la esperan, confiados de vuestra humanidad. Si es que os mueve el respeto que debeis á los dioses, recibidnos en vuestra nave: irémos con vosotros adonde nos quisiereis llevar. El que gobernaba le respondió: Os recibiremos gustosos, porque sabemos bien lo que se debe hacer por los no conocidos, que se ven en tanta desventura.

When they first came aboard, they were so exhausted and out of breath, that they could neither speak nor move; for they had been swimming a long time, and struggled hard with the billows; they recovered, however, by degrees, and had change of apparel brought them, their own being heavy with the water it had imbibed, which ran off from all parts. As soon as they were able to speak, the Phœnicians gathered round them, and were impatient to hear their adventures: « How, » said the commander, « did you get into that island, from whence you came hither? It is in the possession of a goddess, who suffers no man to enter it; and, indeed, it is surrounded by rocks, which are always beaten by so dreadful a surge, that it can scarce be approached without certain shipwreck. »

Mentor replied, « We were driven on shore by a storm: we are Greeks from Ithaca, an island not far from Epirus, whither you are bound; and if you should not touch there, which however is in your course, we will be satisfied to be put on shore at your port; for we shall find friends at Epirus, who will procure us a passage to Ithaca; and we shall still think ourselves indebted to your humanity, for the happiness of being again restored to all that is dear to us in the world. »

Telemachus remained silent, and left Mentor to answer for them both; the faults which he had committed in the island of Calypso, having greatly increased his prudence; he was now diffident of himself; and so conscious how much he always stood in need of the directions of superior wisdom, when he had no opportunity of asking Mentor's advice, he watched his countenance, and endeavoured to discover his sentiments in his looks.

The Phœnician commander, observing the silence of Telemachus, looked earnestly at him, and thought he remembered to have seen him before; but not being able to recollect any particulars, « Permit me, » said he, « to ask, if you have not some remembrance of having seen me before; for I think this is not the first

Luego les admitieron en el baxel, donde apenas entraron, quando no pudiendo ya respirar, quedaron como troncos sin movimiento; porque para resistir á las ondas habian nadado mucho tiempo, y con todo esfuerzo. Poco á poco recobraron las fuerzas; y al instante les diéron otros vestidos, porque los que tenian estaban empapados en la agua que rebosaban. Quando estuviéron ya en disposicion de poder hablar, todos los navegantes Fenicios tomándoles en medio, deseaban saber de ellos su fatalidad. Preguntóles el capitan, de qué suerte habian entrado en aquella isla de donde salian; porque es fama, decia, que la señorea una deidad cruel, que no permite llegar á ella: y porque rodeada de espantosas rocas, contra quienes combate el mar desesperadamente, nadie puede acercársele, sino arrojado de la inclemencia de algun naufragio.

De un naufragio, le respondió Mentor, hemos sido nosotros arrojados. Somos de nacion Griegos, y nuestra patria es Itaca, isla cercana á Epiro, adonde vosotros tal vez enderezaís el rumbo. Mas quando no quisierais ir á Itaca, si navegais á Epiro, nos bastará la suerte de que nos lleveis allá. Hallaremos en esa tierra amigos, que nos asistirán, para hacer el corto viage que hay de ella hasta la nuestra, donde os seremos eternamente deudores de la alegría que lograremos, volviendo á ver otra vez lo que mas estimamos en el mundo.

De esta suerte hablaba Mentor, y dexábale hablar Telémaco, guardando entre tanto silencio; porque los errores, en que habia caído en la isla de Calipso, le habian hecho mas prudente. Desconfiaba de sí propio: conocia la necesidad que tenia de seguir siempre los cuerdos consejos de Mentor; y á lo ménos se aconsejaba de él con los ojos, quando nó le podia hablar y pedirle su parecer, procurando hacerse adivino de sus pensamientos.

Al capitan Fenicio que miraba fixamente á Telémaco, parecia, que en otro tiempo le habia visto; pero le parecia confusamente, y sin que se pudiera certificar. Permitidme, le dixo, que os pregunte, si me habeis visto en otro lance; porque á mí me parece que antes de ahora os he visto. No me es incógnito vuestro

time I have seen you : your countenance is well known to me ; it struck me at the first glance , but I cannot recollect where we have met ; perhaps my memory may be assisted by yours. »

Telemachus immediately replied , with a mixture of surprise and pleasure , « I have felt at the sight of you , exactly what you have felt at the sight of me ; I well remember to have seen you ; but I cannot recollect , whether in Egypt or at Tyre. » The Phœnician , at the mention of Egypt and Tyre , like a man , who , waking in the morning , has brought back , by degrees , and as it were from a remote distance , the evanescent images of a dream which had fled with the shadows of the night , suddenly cried out , « Thou art Telemachus , with whom Narbal contracted a friendship when we were returning from Egypt ! I am his brother , of whom you have doubtless heard him often speak : I left you with him , when we arrived at Tyre , being myself obliged to make a voyage to Boetia , that celebrated country , near the pillars of Hercules , on the remotest confines of the deep : having , therefore , but just seen you , it is not strange that I did not perfectly recollect you at first sight. »

« I perceive , » said Telemachus , « that you are Adoam ; I had no opportunity of a personal acquaintance with you , but I have heard much of you from Narbal. How should I rejoice , to hear of him from you ! for to me , his memory will be for ever dear. Is he still at Tyre ? has he suffered nothing from the suspicion and cruelty of Pygmalion ? » « Telemachus » said Adoam , interrupting him , « fortune has now given you in charge to a man , who will , to the utmost of his abilities , deserve the trust : I will put you on shore at Ithaca , before I proceed to Epirus ; and you shall not find less friendship in the brother of Narbal than in Narbal himself. »

Having looked aloft while he was speaking , he observed that the wind , for which he had waited , be-

semblante, luego me ha hecho llamada la fantasía; pero no sé dónde os he visto: tal vez vuestra memoria ayudará á la mia.

Al instante Telémaco con extraordinario regocijo le respondió: Como os maravillais de mirarme, así yo quedo atonito de veros. Os he visto, os conozco; mas no sé si en Egipto ó en Tiro. Entónces el Fenicio, como un hombre que despierta al amanecer, y que á la larga poco á poco recobra la memoria del sueño fugitivo, que desaparece al despertar, gritó, sin que pudiera contenerse: Vos sois Telémaco, con quien Narbal hizo amistad, quando volvimos de Egipto: yo soy su hermano, de quien él sin duda muchas veces debió hablaros; y acuérdomé, que os dexé entre sus brazos. Despues de la empresa de Egipto, me fué preciso atravesar los mares navegando á la famosa Bética, cerca de las columnas de Hércules: por ésta sola causa no pude mas que veros; y no es de maravillar que al principio me ha costado tanto el recuerdo de vuestra persona.

Bien veo, respondió Telémaco, que vos sois Adoamo: os ví solamente de paso, pero os conozco por lo que Narbal me contó de vos en nuestras conversaciones. ¡O qué gran regocijo siento, pudiendo oír de vos alguna noticia, de una persona, que siempre me será tan amable! ¿Se halla, por ventura aun en Tiro? ¿Padece acaso algun cruel tratamiento del sospechoso, y bárbaro Pigmalion? Sabed, Telémaco, respondió Adoamo, interrumpiéndolo, que la fortuna os pone baxo la fe de un hombre, que todo lo posible pondrá á execucion para servirlos. Os conduciré á la isla de Itaca, antes que pase á Epiro, y no os tendrá ménos cariño su hermano que Narbal mismo.

Habiendo hablado de esta suerte, advirtió, que ya se movia el viento que esperaba: hizo levantar ánco-

gan to blow ; he , therefore , gave orders instantly to weigh anchor ; the sails were spread to the breeze and the oars divided the flood.

Adoam then took Telemachus and Mentor apart ; « I will now , » said he to Telemachus , « gratify your curiosity. The tyranny of Pygmalion is at an end ; from that scourge , the righteous gods have delivered the earth ! As he dared to trust no man , so no man dared to trust him ; the good were content to sigh in secret , and to hide themselves from his cruelty , without attempting any thing against him ; the wicked thought there was no way of securing their own lives , but by putting an end to his. There was not a man in Tyre , who was not in perpetual danger of alarming his suspicion ; and to this danger , his guards themselves were more exposed than others : as his life was in their hands , he feared them in proportion to their power ; and he sacrificed them to his safety , upon the slightest mistrust ; thus , his very search of security , rendered the finding of it impossible ; those , in whose hands he had deposited his life , were , themselves , in perpetual danger by his suspicion ; and the only expedient to deliver themselves from this dreadful situation , was to anticipate the effects of his suspicion by his death.

The first , however , who took a resolution to destroy him , was the impious Astarbe , whom you have heard so often mentioned already. She was passionately enamoured of a young Tyrian , who had great possessions and whose name was Joazar ; and had conceived a design of placing him upon the throne ; to facilitate the execution of this project , she persuaded the king that Phadael , the eldest of his two sons , being impatient to succeed him , had conspired against his life ; she suborned witnesses to support the charge , and the unhappy tyrant caused Phadael to be put to death. Baleazar , his second son , was sent to Samos , under pretence of learning the manners and the sciences of Greece ; but , in reality , because Astarbe had persuaded the king , that it was necessary to send him away lest he should associate himself with the malecontents.

ras , poner las velas , y sacudir el agua con los remos. Llamó despues á parte á Mentor y á Telémaco , para discurrir con entrambos sin intervencion de testigos.

Ahora dixo , mirando á Telémaco , me dispongo á satisfacer á vuestra curiosidad. Ya Pigmalion murió , y los justos dioses libraron de él al Reyno. Como este Rey no se fiaba de nadie , ninguno se podia fiar de él. Los buenos se contentaban con gemir , y apartarse de su crueldad , sin poder resolverse á hacerle daño ; y los malos no creian tener seguras sus vidas , sino con su muerte. No habia hombre en Tiro , que no estuviese en un continuo riesgo de ser objeto de su desconfianza. Sus mismas guardias estaban mas expuestas á este peligro , que todos los demas. Como tenia la vida en sus manos , les tenia mas miedo que á todo el resto de los hombres. A qualquiera ligera sospecha los sacrificaba á la propia seguridad ; pero no la podia hallar en los que eran depositarios de su salud , hallándose ellos en un continuado peligro , y no pudiendo librarse de una condicion tan horrible , sino anticipando la muerte de un Rey tirano á sus crueles sospechas.

La malvada Astarbé , de quién oiste hablar tantas veces , fue la primera en resolver perderlo. Enamoróse ella con una excesiva passion de un rico jóven Tirio , llamado Guioazar , y confió poderlo levantar hasta el solio. Para executar ésta idea , hizo entender al Rey , que el mayor de sus hijos , impaciente por succederle , se habia conjurado contra él : y halló algunos falsos testigos para probar la conspiración. El desventurado Rey dió muerte al hijo inocente ; y el segundo , llamado Balcazar , fué enviado á Samo , socolor de aprender las costumbres y ciencias de la Grecia ; porque Astarbé persuadió á Pigmalion , que convenia alejarlo , temiendo no se uniera con los malcontentos. Apenas partió , quando los que guiaban el baxel , cohechados de la impia muger , tomaron la oportunidad de la noche para fingir un verdadero naufragio del desdi-

The ship, in which he was embarked, had scarce quitted the port, when those who had been appointed to navigate her, having been corrupted by the perfidious inhumanity of Astarbe, contrived to make a shipwreck of the vessel in the night; and having thrown the young prince into the sea, they preserved themselves by swimming to some foreign barks, that waited for them at a convenient distance.

« In the mean time, the amours of Astarbe were secrets to none but Pygmalion, who fondly imagined himself to be the only object of her affection: he, who heard even the whispers of the breeze with distrust and dread, relied on this abandoned woman with a blind and implicit confidence: at the time, however, when love rendered him the dupe of her artifices, he was incited, by avarice, to find some pretence for putting Joazar, her favourite, to death, that he might seize upon his riches.

« But while suspicion, love, and avarice, were thus sharing the heart of Pygmalion, Astarbe was contriving his immediate destruction: she thought it possible, that he might have discovered something of her connexion with Joazar, and if not, she knew that avarice alone would furnish him with a sufficient motive to cut him off: she concluded, therefore, that not a moment was to be lost: she saw, that all the principal officers of the court were ready to dip their hands in his blood, and she heard of some new conspiracy every day: yet there was none whom she could make the confidants of her design, without putting her own life in their power; and, therefore, she determined to destroy Pygmalion by poison, and to administer it herself.

« It was his general practice to eat with her in private; and he always dressed his food himself, not daring to trust any hand but his own; while he was thus employed, he used to lock himself up in the most retired part of his palace, the better to conceal his fears, and elude observation. He did not dare to enjoy any of the pleasures of the table, nor even to taste any thing which had not been prepared wholly by himself; he was thus precluded from the use, not only

chado Príncipe. Salváronse ellos nadando acia unas barcas extrañas que les esperaban, y arrojáron al pobre jóven á la inclemencia del mar.

En tanto los amores de Astarbé no se encubrian mas, que á Pigmalion, el qual imaginaba, que no podia ella tener amor á otro sino á él. Un príncipe tan sospechoso estaba lleno de una ciega confianza en aquella muger perversa: la pasion del amor era quien le cegaba hasta este extremo. Hizole al mismo tiempo la avaricia que buscara pretextos para quitar la vida á Guioazar, á quien tenia Astarbé desmesurada pasion; y no pensaba mas que en apoderarse de las riquezas del jóven.

Pero mientras que Pigmalion se entregaba del todo á la desconfianza, al amor y á la ávaricia, se apresuró Astarbé en dar fin á su idea y sacarle del mundo. Creyó que tal vez habia él descubierto alguna cosa de su infame comercio con aquel jóven; y sabiendo por otra parte, que sola la codicia seria suficiente á hacer derramar su sangre, concluyó, que no habia que perder un momento en prevenirlo. Veia ella á los principales ministros de la corte apercebidos para bañar sus manos en la sangre Real: oia hablar cada día de una nueva conjuracion; mas temia fiarse de alguno, que la burlára. Parecióle al fin mas seguro consejo envenenar á Pigmalion.

Este comia á solas de ordinario, y él mismo disponia su comida, no pudiendo fiarse sino de sus propias manos. Cerrábase en el sitio mas retirado de su Palacio, para ocultar mejor su desconfianza; y porque no le vieran jamas aderezar lo que habia de comer. No se atrevia á buscar regalo alguno de los que suelen servir en la mesa; ni se podia resolver á comer cosa alguna de las que él mismo no sabia sazonar. Asi no le podian servir no solo las viandas guisadas por sus cocineros,

of delicacies and refinements in cookery, but of wine, bread, salt, oil, milk, and all other ordinary food; he lived entirely upon fruit, which he gathered himself from his garden, or such roots and herbs as he sowed and dressed with his own hands; he drank no liquor, but the water which he drew from a fountain that was enclosed in a part of the palace, of which he always kept the key; and notwithstanding his confidence in Astarbe, he did not, in this particular, lay aside his precaution even with respect to her; he made her eat and drink of every thing that furnished out their repast, before he tasted it himself, that he might be sure not to be poisoned without her, and that she might have no hope of surviving him. She contrived, however, to render this precaution ineffectual; for she took a counterpoison, which she had obtained of an old woman yet more wicked than herself, whom, upon this occasion, she made no scruple to trust, as she was already the confidant of her amours. As she was thus secured against danger, in poisoning the king with food of which she was herself to partake, she accomplished her purpose in the following manner:

« At the moment when they were sitting down to their repast, the old woman made a noise at one of the doors of the apartment; the king, always under the terrors of assassination, was greatly alarmed, and ran in haste to the door, to see that it was secured: the old woman having performed her part, withdrew; and the king stood torpid in suspense, not knowing what to think of the noise he had heard, not daring to resolve his doubts by opening the door. Astarbe encouraged him, caressed him, and pressed him to eat, having thrown poison into his golden cup, while he ran to the door upon the alarm. Pygmalion, with his usual precaution, gave the cup first into her hand; and she drank without fear, confiding in the antidote she had taken: Pygmalion then drank himself; and, in a short time afterwards, sunk down in a state of total insensibility.

Astarbe, who knew that he was capable of stabbing her to the heart upon the slightest suspicion, and that he might recover from this fit while he had yet strength

pero ni aun el vino , el pan , la sal , el aceyte , la leche , y los demas manjares ordinarios. No comia otra cosa que aquellas frutas que él propio por su mano cogia en su jardin , ó algunas legumbres que él sembraba , y él tambien ponía á cocer al fuego. A mas de esto , no bebia jamas otra agua sino la que tomaba de una fuente cerrada en cierto puesto de su Palacio , cuya llave tenia en su poder. Sin embargo que parecia fiarse de Astarbé , no dexaba de guardarse de ella , y la hacia siempre comer y beber la primera de todo lo que habia de servir para su alimento : si alguna rara vez no observaba la estrecha regla de su desdicha , era para no poder ser envenenado sino juntamente con ella , y para que Astarbé no tuviera esperanza de vivir mas que él. Pero ella tomó el antídoto que le ofreció una vieja , aun mas malvada que ella , que era confidente de sus amores , despues de lo qual no temió el peligro de atosigarlo.

He aquí el modo con que logró su intento. Al punto que iban á empezar á comer , fingió la vieja , que llamaban á la puerta. El Rey , que siempre tenia miedo de que alguno le quisiéra matar , corrió á la puerta misma todo turbado á ver si estaba bien cerrada. Retírase al instante la vieja . queda el Rey asustado , y no sabiendo qué discurrir de lo que habia oido , á nada menos se atreve que á averiguarlo y abrir la puerta. Anímalo Astarbé , le acaricia , y con instancia le ruega que prosiga comiendo. Habia ella mezclado ya el veneno en la taza de oro , mientras que él habia acudido á la puerta. Pigmalion conforme á su costumbre la hizo beber primero , y bebió sin temor , fiada en el antídoto. Bebió tambien Pigmalion , y de allí á poco rato se desmayó.

Astarbé , que conocia la materia , á la mas minima sospecha , empezó á rasgarse los vestidos , arrancarse los cabellos , y á dar gritos , acompañados de un fin-

to do it, immediately rent her clothes, tore her hair, and burst into clamorous lamentations; she took the dying king in her arms, pressed him to her bosom, and shed over him a flood of tears, which she had always at command; but when she saw that his strength was just exhausted, and the last agony coming on, she dropped the mask, and to prevent a possibility of his recovery, threw herself upon him, and smothered him: she then took the royal signet from his finger, and the diadem from his head, and presented them both to Joazar, whom she called in for that purpose. She imagined, that all her partizans would readily concur in the gratification of her passion; and that her lover would not fail to be proclaimed king: but those who had paid their court to her with the greatest assiduity, were base and mercenary wretches, who were incapable of a sincere affection; and who, besides being destitute of courage, were deterred from supporting Astarbe, by the fear of her enemies; her own pride, dissimulation, and cruelty, were yet more formidable; and every one wished that she might perish, as a pledge of his own security.

In the mean time, the palace was in the utmost confusion: nothing was heard, but a repetition of the words, « The king is dead! » some stood terrified and irresolute; others ran to arms; every one rejoiced at the event, but every one apprehended the consequences. The news presently circulated, from mouth to mouth, through the whole city, where there was not so much as a single person that regretted the death of the king, which was an universal deliverance and consolation.

« Narbal, struck with an event so sudden and awful, compassionated the misfortunes of Pygmalion, though he could not but detest his vices; he regretted like an honest man, his having betrayed himself to destruction, by an unlimited and unreserved confidence in Astarbe; choosing rather to be a tyrant, disclaimed by nature, and abhorred by mankind, than

gido llanto. Abrazaba al Rey moribundo, estrechábale entre sus brazos, y lo bañaba de un arroyo de lágrimas, porque nada le costaban á aquella cautelosa muger. Quando vió finalmente qué ya no tenia el Rey fuerzas, y estaba agonizando, temiendo que se recobrara algun tanto, y quisiera hacerla morir junto con él, pasó de las caricias, y mas tiernas demostraciones de amor al mas horroroso furor. Arrojósele á la garganta, y anudándole la respiracion, le ahogó: sacóle despues de la mano el real anillo, quitóle la corona, é hizo entrar á Guiozar, á quien dió uno y otro. Creed cierto que todos sus apasionados no hubieran dexado de favorecer sus designios, y que su amante se hubiera proclamado por Rey; pero eran todos de baxo aliento, mercenarios, y no capaces de un afecto sincero, quantos habian sido ántes los mas solícitos en complacerla. Faltábales tambien el valor, y tenian temor á la altivez, al engaño, y á la crueldad de aquella muger sin piedad; cada uno por su seguridad misma deseaba que pereciese.

Entre tanto todo el palacio se llenó de un espantoso tumulto, y se oian por todas partes los gritos de los que decian: El Rey es muerto. Iban espantados los unos, y corrian á las armas los otros: se mostraban con ansia de lo que habia de suceder: pero alegrandose por extremo de esta noticia, la divulgó la fama de boca en boca por la grande ciudad de Tyro; y no se halló ninguno á quien doliera la perdida de Pigmalion. Fué su muerte la libertad, y el consuelo de todo el pueblo.

Asombrado Narbal de un accidente tan espantoso, sintió como hombre de bien la desgracia del Príncipe, que habia hecho traicion á sí propio, poniéndose en las manos de la impia Astarbé, y ántes que ser padre de sus vasallos, conforme á las obligaciones de Rey, quiso ser horrible y monstruoso tirano. El cuidó del bien del estado, y se dió priesa para juntar todos los

to fulfil the duties of a sovereign, and become the father of his people. He was also attentive to the interests of the state, and made haste to assemble the friends of their country, to oppose the measures of Astarbe; under whose influence, there was the greatest reason to apprehend a reign yet more oppressive than that of Pygmalion himself.

« Narbal knew, that Baleazar was not drowned when he was thrown into the sea; though the wretches, who assured Astarbe of his death, thought otherwise: he saved himself under favour of the night by swimming: and some Cretan merchants, touched with compassion, took him into their vessel: having no reason to doubt but that his destruction was intended, and being equally afraid of the cruel jealousy of Pygmalion, and the fatal artifices of Astarbe, he did not dare to return into his father's dominions, but wandered about on the coast of Syria, where he had been left by the Cretans who took him up, and gained a scanty subsistence by tending a flock of sheep: at length, however, he found means to make Narbal acquainted with his situation; not doubting but that he might safely trust his secret and his life with a man, whose virtue had been so often tried. Narbal, though he had been ill-treated by the father, did not look with less tenderness upon the son: nor was he less attentive to his interests, in which, however, his principal view was to prevent his undertaking any thing inconsistent with the duty he still owed to his father; and therefore, he exerted all his influence to reconcile him to his ill fortune.

« Baleazar had requested Narbal to send him a ring as a token, whenever it should be proper for him to repair to Tyre; but Narbal did not think it prudent, during the life of Pygmalion, as it would have been attended with the utmost danger to them both; the tyrant's inquisitive circumspection being such, as no subtilty or diligence could elude: but, as soon as the fate he merited had overtaken him, Narbal sent the ring to Baleazar. Baleazar set out immediately, and

hombres de bien para oponerse á Astarbé, baxo cuyo poder se hubiera visto un gobierno aun mucho mas cruel que el que acababa de fenecer.

Baleazar no murió en las ondas quando le arrojáron al mar; y los que testificaron á Astarbé que era muerto, lo hicieron persuadidos de que en verdad lo fuese; mas se habia al abrigo de la noche escapado nadando hasta llegar á unos pescadores de Creta, que movidos á compasion lo acogieron en sus barquillas. No se habia atrevido á volver al Reyno de su padre, por sospechar que le habian querido quitar la vida, y tener igual miedo á les engaños de Astarbé, que á los crueles rezelos de Pigmalion. Estuvo largo tiempo vagueando y mudando trage en las riberas del mar de Syria, en donde le habian dexado los pescadores Creteneses; y se vió tambien obligado á guardar ganado, para adquirir sustento. Finalmente él encontró manera de noticiar su estado á Narbal, creyendo que podia fiar su secreto y su vida á un hombre de virtud tan experimentada. Narbal maltratado del padre, no dexó de estimar al hijo, y de tener cuidado de sus intereses; pero no se empeñó en este cuidado sino para estorbarle que faltara jamas á la obligacion á su padre, persuadiendole que llevara con paciencia su desgraciada fortuna.

Habia Baleazar enviado á decir á Narbal que quando juzgara conveniente que el se restituyera á Tiro, le remitiera un anillo de oro, y por él se daria por avisado de haber llegado el tiempo oportuno de verse. Narbal no tuvo por acertado que Baleazar se volviera á Tiro viviendo todavia Pigmalion; porque se hubiera puesto á peligro su vida y la del Príncipe: tan difícil a el salvarse de las rigurosas respuestas del sospechoso Rey. Mas luego que tuvo este el digno fin de sus

arrived at the gates of Tyre, while the whole city was in the utmost trouble and perplexity, to know who should succeed to the throne : he was at once known and acknowledged, as well by the principal Tyrians, as by the people ; they loved him, not for the sake of his father, who was the object of universal detestation, but for his own amiable and gracious disposition ; and even his misfortunes now threw a kind of splendour around him, which shewed his good qualities to the greatest advantage, and produced a tender interest in his favour.

« Narbal assembled the chiefs of the people, the elders of the council, and the priests of the great goddess of Phœnicia. They saluted Baleazar as their king : and he was immediately proclaimed by the heralds, amidst the acclamations of the people. The shouts were heard by Astarbe in one of the innermost recesses of the palace, where she had shut herself up with Joazar, her effeminate and infamous favourite : she was abandoned by all the sycophants and parasites, the corrupt prostitutes of power, who had attached themselves to her during the life of Pygmalion ; for the wicked fear the wicked ; they know them to be unworthy of confidence, and therefore do not wish they should be invested with power. Men of corrupt principles know how much others, of the same characters, abuse authority, and to what excess they carry oppression ; they wish rather to have the good set over them ; for though they cannot hope for reward, they know that they shall not suffer injury. Astarbe, therefore, was deserted by all but a few wretches, who had so far involved themselves in her guilt, that, whatever party they should espouse, they could not hope to escape punishment.

« The palace was soon forced : guilt, naturally irresolute and timid, made little resistance, and the criminals endeavoured to save themselves by flight. Astarbe attempted to make her escape, disguised like a slave ; but she was detected and seized by a soldier, who knew her : and it was with great difficulty that the people were prevented from tearing her to pieces ;

desaciertos, Narbal se apresuró á enviar el anillo de oro á Baleazar. Partió este al momento, y llegó á las puertas de Tiro en aquel mismo lance, en que estaba tumultuada toda la ciudad sobre dar sucesor á Pigmalion. Todos los principales, y todo el pueblo reconocieron á Baleazar facilmente. Amábanle, no por el Rey su padre, que era generalmente aborrecido, sino por sus costumbres apacibles y moderadas. Sus repetidos desastros le añadian tambien no sé qué gracia, que descubria mas sus buenas calidades, por las quales todos los Tirios se enternecian en su favor.

Juntó Narbal las cabezas del pueblo, los ancianos de quienes se formaba el consejo, y los sacerdotes de la gran diosa de Fenicia. Estos cumplimentaron á Baleazar como á su Rey, y hicieron que por tal le publicaran los Reyes de Armas. Corresponidió la plebe con mil aclamaciones de júbilo. Entendiólo Astarbé desde lo interior del palacio, donde estaba encerrada con su vil é infame Guioazar. Habíanla abandonado todos los malos, de quienes ella se habia servido en el reynado de Pigmalion. Y es la razon, porque temen los malos á los malos, desconfian de ellos, y no desean verlos en grado autorizado; porque saben de qué mal modo se valdrian de él, y adonde llegaria su violencia; pero lo que es ver elevados á los buenos, lo toleran los malos con gusto; porque á lo menos esperan hallar en ellos moderacion, y á veces condescendencia. En quanto á Astarbé, y sus complices no les quedaba otra esperanza que el castigo que merecian sus execrables delitos.

Vencidas las puertas del real palacio, no osaron aquellos facinorosos á hacer en él muy larga resistencia, porque luego trataron de escaparse. Astarbé, disfrazada en traje de esclava, procuró salvarse entre la turba; pero descubrióla un soldado. Prendiéronla, y fué menester gran trabajo para impedir que no la despedazara el pueblo enfurecido. Ya habian empezado á

they had already thrown her down, and were dragging her along the pavement, when Narbal rescued her out of their hands. She then entreated that she might speak to Baleazar, whom she hoped to influence by her beauty, and to impose upon by pretending that she could make important discoveries. Baleazar could not refuse to hear her; and she approached him with an expression of sweetness and modesty in her countenance, which gave new power to her beauty, and might have softened rage into pity and complacency. She addressed him with the most delicate and insinuating flattery; she conjured him, by the ashes of his father, to take pity upon her, whom he had so tenderly loved; she invoked the gods, as if she had paid them the homage of sincere adoration: she shed a flood of tears, and prostrating herself on the ground before the young king, she passionately embraced his knees. But as soon as she imagined these arts had gained an influence over him, she neglected nothing to render him suspicious of the most faithful and affectionate of his servants; she accused Narbal of having entered into a conspiracy against Pygmalion; and of intrigues, to procure himself to be chosen king instead of Baleazar, whom she insinuated, he had intended to poison. In the same manner, she calumniated every other person, whom she knew to be a friend to virtue; and hoped to find Baleazar susceptible of the same distrust and suspicion as his father: but the young prince, discerning and disdaining both her subtilty and her malice, suddenly interrupted her, by calling for his guards: she was immediately carried to prison, and a proper number of persons, distinguished for their experience and their wisdom, were appointed to inquire into her conduct.

« They discovered, with horror, that she had first poisoned, and then smothered Pygmalion: and that her whole life had been one uninterrupted series of the most enormous crimes: she was, therefore, judged worthy of the severest punishment which the laws of Phœnicia could inflict, and condemned to be burnt by a slow fire. But as soon as she found that her crimes were known, and her judges inexorable, she

arrastrarla por el lodo de las calles ; mas sacóla Narbal de las manos del vulgo. Pidió ella entonces hablar á Baleazar , prometiéndose deslumbrarlo con sus alhagos , y moverle á esperar , que le descubriría secretos importantes. No pudo Baleazar escusar el oirla. Al principio mostró con su hermosura un agrado y modestia tal , que bastaria para enternecer los corazones mas duros. Lisonjeó á Baleazar con las mas ingeniosas alabanzas , y mas acomodadas para persuadir : representóle lo mucho que su padre la habia amado : conjuróle por las cenizas de aquel frio cadaver á tener de ella compasion : invocó a los dioses , como si con pecho sincero los hubiera adorado : vertió arroyos de lágrimas ; arrojóse á los pies del Rey ; pero despues no dexó de valerse de todo el artificio para poner al Rey en sospecha , y en odio de sus mas fieles vasallos. Acusó á Narbal de haber tenido parte en una conjuracion contra Pigmalion , y haber intentado coechar los pueblos para hacerse Rey en perjuicio suyo : añadió despues de esto , que le procuraba prender , é inventó contra todos los mas virtuosos Tirios otras semejantes calumnias. Esperaba encontrar en el pecho de Baleazar la misma deferencia , y las sospechas mismas que habia descubierto en el del Rey su padre ; pero no pudiendo él sufrir la malignidad detestable de esta muger , interrumpió su narracion , y llamó la guardia. Fué encerrada en una prision ; y cometido el diligente exámen de sus operaciones á los ancianos de mayor prudencia.

Vínose á averiguar con horror , que habia atosigado y ahogado á Pigmalion ; y toda la serie de su vida se descubrió una continua cadena de monstruosos delitos. Estaban ya para condenarla á ser quemada con fuego lento , que es el castigo decretado por la ley para vengar los delitos mayores en la Fenicia ; pero quando ella supo que ya no le quedaba esperanza alguna , se puso como si fuera una furia salida del infierno. Tomó

gave way to all the furies that had taken possession of her soul ; and she immediately swallowed poison , which she had taken care to conceal about her , as the means of a speedy death , if she should be condemned to suffer lingering torments. Those who were about her , soon perceived that she suffered intolerable pain , and offered such relief as was in their power ? but , without giving any answer , she made signs that she would receive no assistance : they then spoke to her of the righteous gods , whose anger she had provoked ; but , instead of expressing contrition or remorse , she looked upward with a mixture of despite and arrogance , as if she abhorred their attributes , and defied their vengeance.

« The last agony now came on , and her dying aspect expressed only impiety and rage : of that beauty , which had been fatal to so many , no remains were now left ; every grace was vanished ; her eyes , upon which the hand of death was already heavy , were turned hastily on every side , with a wild and unmeaning ferocity ; her lips were convulsed , her mouth open , and her whole countenance distorted ; a livid paleness succeeded , and her body became cold ; yet sometimes she started , as it were , back to life ; but it was only to express the pang that roused her , by shrieks and groans. At length , however , she expired , leaving those that stood around her in a state of inexpressible confusion and horror. Her guilty soul , without doubt , descended to those mournful regions , where the unrelenting daughters of Danaus are perpetually employed in filling vessels that will not hold water , where Ixion for ever turns his wheel ; and Tantalus , in vain , endeavours to slake his everlasting thirst , with the water that eludes his lips ; where Sisyphus , with unavailing labour , rolls up the stone , which eternally falls back ; and where Tityus feels the vulture incessantly prey upon his heart , which , as fast as it is devoured , is renewed.

« Baleazar , having expressed his gratitude to the gods for his deliverance from this monster , by innumerable sacrifices , began his reign by a conduct alto-

el veneno , que llevaba siempre consigo para matarse si llegaba ocasion de haber de sufrir largos tormentos. Los que la guardaban notáron que padecia un dolor violento , y estaban prontos á socorrerla ; pero nunca les quiso responder ; antes bien mostraba con señales no querer su favor , ni su consuelo. Hicieronle memoria de los justos dioses , cuya ira habia provocado con sus delitos ; pero en vez de mostrar vergüenza , y arrepentimiento proporcionado á sus culpas , miró al cielo con menosprecio y con arrogancia , como para insultar á los mismos dioses.

La rabia y la desesperacion se veian copiadas en su rostro mortal y agonizante : ya no se descubria en ella algun rastro de la hermosura que á tantos habia hechizado , ántes habia perdido todo su donayre primero. Volvia en blanco los ojos ya sin vista , y echaba feroces miradas : movianse sus labios con la violencia del accidente , que le tenia la boca extraordinariamente abierta : su rostro contraido y erizado hacia feos y horrorosos gestos : una palidez livida y una frialdad mortal se habian apoderado de todo su cuerpo : alguna vez parecia recóbrarse ; pero solo era para dar alaridos. Espiró finalmente , dexando á todos llenos de horror , y espanto de lo que en ella viéron. Aquella alma malvada baxó ciertamente á aquellos tristes lugares , donde las crueles hijas de Danaë sacan el agua en vasos , que no pueden retenerla : donde Ixíon da vueltas á su rueda : donde Tántalo abrasado de sed , no puede alcanzar el recreo del agua , que se va fugitiva de sus labios : donde Sisifo voltea inutilmente una piedra , porque vuelve continuamente á rodar hasta su centro : y donde Ticio para siempre sufrirá al buytre , que quanto mas renacen , tanto mas come y comerá sus entrañas.

Libre Baleazar de tal monstruo , dió gracias á los dioses con innumerables sacrificios. Ha empezado á reynar con un gobierno totalmente opuesto al de su padre :

gether different from that of Pygmalion. He applies himself, with great diligence, to revive commerce, which had long languished by a gradual decline; in matters of great importance, he takes the advice of Narbal, yet does not submit implicitly to his direction; in every instance, he makes the administration of government his own act, and takes cognizance of all things with his own eye: he hears every one's opinion, and then determines according to his own: he is, consequently, the idol of his people; and, by possessing their affections, he is master of more wealth, than the cruel avarice of his father could ever hoard; for there is not a man in his dominions that would not freely part with his whole property, if, upon a pressing necessity, he should require it of him: what he leaves his people, therefore, is more effectually his own, than it would be if he took it away. All precautions for the security of his person are unnecessary: for he is continually surrounded by an impregnable defence — the affection of the public: there is not a subject in his kingdom, that does not dread the loss of his prince, as a calamity to himself; and who would not interpose between him and danger, at the hazard of his life. He is happy, and all his people are happy with him; he is afraid of requiring too much of them, and they are afraid of offering him too little: his moderation leaves them in affluence, but this affluence renders them neither intractable nor insolent: for they are habitually industrious, addicted to commerce, and inflexible in supporting the ancient purity of their laws. Phœnicia has now reached the summit of greatness and of glory, and owes all her prosperity to her young king!

« Narbal is his minister, the instrument of his virtue, and of his wisdom. O Telemachus! if he was now to see you, with what joy would he load you with presents, and send you back with magnificence to your own country! How would he have rejoiced, to have placed the son of Ulysses upon the throne of Ithaca, to diffuse the same happiness through that island, which Balaazar dispenses at Tyre! And how happy am I, to render you this service in his stead!»

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se ha aplicado á hacer que florezca el comercio, que siempre iba desfalleciendo cada dia mas : ha tomado en los negocios mas importantes los consejos de Narbal; y sin embargo no es dominado de él, porque él mismo quiere verlo todo : oye todos los diferentes dictámenes, que se le proponen, y decide despues segun lo que mejor le parece. Es amado de los vasallos; y poseyendo los corazones, posee mas riquezas que las que habia recogido su padre con su cruel avaricia; porque no hay familia alguna, que quando él se encontrara en urgente necesidad, no le sirviera con todos sus intereses. Asi lo que les dexa es mas suyo, que si se les quitara. No tiene necesidad de usar de cautela para la seguridad de su vida; porque siempre tiene la guardia mas segura que le rodea, y es el amor de los pueblos. No hay vasallo alguno que no tema perderlo; y que por conservar la vida de tan buen Rey no arriesgara la propia. Vive feliz, y lo es juntamente con él todo su pueblo : teme agravar con excesivas imposiciones los súbditos; y estos tienen rubor de no ofrecerle una gran parte de sus haciendas. Déxales abundantes, y la abundancia no les hace intratables ni insolentes; porque son laboriosos, dados al comercio, y constantes en conservar la pureza de las antiguas leyes. La Fenicia ha subido de nuevo al mas sublime grado de su grandeza y gloria, y es deudora á su jóven Rey de la prosperidad que ahora goza.

Narbal es su ministro. ; O si él os viera ahora, Telemaco, con qué alegría os colmaria de dones ! ; Qué gusto seria para él restituiros magníficamente á vuestra patria ! Yo soy dichoso puesto que haré lo que él quisiera, yendo á Itaca á poner sobre el trono al hijo de Ulises, para que reyne en ella tan sabiamente como Baleazar reyna en Tiro.

Telemachus, who had listened with great pleasure to the relation of these events, and was yet more sensibly touched with the tender and zealous friendship with which Adoam had received him in his misfortune, replied only by clasping him to his breast in a transport of gratitude, affection, and esteem. Adoam then inquired, how he came on shore at the island of Calypso; and Telemachus, in his turn, gave him the history of his departure from Tyre, of his passage to the isle of Cyprus, of the manner of his finding Mentor, of their voyage to Crete, of the public games for the election of a king after the flight of Idomeneus, of the resentment of Venus, of their shipwreck, of the pleasure with which Calypso received them, of her becoming jealous of Eucharis, and of his being thrown into the sea by Mentor; upon his perceiving a Phœnician vessel at some distance from the coast.

Adoam then ordered a magnificent entertainment; and, as a farther testimony of his joy, he improved it with all the pleasures of which his situation would admit. During the repast, which was served by young Phœnicians, dressed in white garments, and crowned with flowers; the place was perfumed by burning the most odoriferous gums of the east: they were entertained with the sound of the flute, by musicians, to whom the rowers had resigned their seats; and this melody was, from time to time, interrupted by Achitoas, who accompanied his lyre with his voice, in strains which were worthy to be heard at the table of the gods, and to which even Apollo might have listened with delight. The Tritons, Nereids, and all the deities who rule the waters in subordination to the father of the deep, and even all the monsters of those hoary regions unknown to man, quitted the watery grottos of the abyss, and swam in crowds round the vessel to enjoy the harmony. A band of Phœnician youths, of exquisite beauty, clothed in fine linen, whiter than snow, entertained them a long time with dancing, in the manner of their country, afterwards with the dances of Egypt, and at last with those of

Habiendo hablado así Adoamo, Telémaco gustoso de la historia, que el Fenicio le habia referido, y aun mas de las señales de amistad, que recibia de él en su infortunio, le abrazó tiernamente. Preguntándole luego Adoamo, qué infortunio le habia llevado á la isla de Calipso, le contó por su orden la historia de su salida de Tiro, su tránsito por la isla de Chipre, el modo con que habia hallado á Mentor, su viage á Creta, los juegos públicos para elegir Rey despues de la fuga de Idomeneo, la indignacion de Venus, el naufragio pasado, el gusto con que Calipso los habia acogido, los zelos de la diosa contra una de sus ninfas, y la accion de Mentor que le habia arrojado al mar, al instante que vió el baxel Fenicio.

Despues de estos discursos hizo disponer Adoamo un gran banquete; y para demostrar mayor alegría, unió todos los gustos, de que se podia gozar al tiempo del convite, que sirvieron algunos mancebos coronados de flores, y con vestidos blancos. Quemáronse los aromas mas raros del Oriente: todos los bancos de los remeros estaban llenos de músicos, que tañian diversos instrumentos, y Arquitoó los interrumpia de quando en quando con la dulce harmonia de su voz, y lira, digna de ser oida en la mesa misma de los dioses, y de sumo placer á los oidos de Apolo. Los Tritones, Nereidas, y todos los dioses sujetos á Neptuno, y aun los mismos monstruos marinos, atraidos de tanta melodía, salian de sus grutas para venir en tropel al rededor del navio. Un coro de mancebos Fenicios, de rara hermosura, vestidos de lino finísimo mas blanco que la nieve, danzaron un gran rato los bayles de su pais: despues baylaron los de Egipto, y concluyeron con los de Grecia. De tiempo en tiempo algunas trompetas hacian resonar con su estruendo no solamente el mar, sino las distantes riveras. La noche silenciosa, la bonanza del mar, la trémula luz de la Luna difundida sobre las aguas, y el azul obscuro del cielo, sembrado

Greece. At proper intervals, the shrill voice of the trumpet interposed, and the waves resounded to the distant shores. The silence of the night, the calmness of the sea, the lambent radiance of the moon, which trembled on the surface of the waves, and the deep azure of the sky, spangled with a thousand stars, concurred to heighten the beauty of the scene.

Telemachus, who was remarkable for a quick and lively sensibility, tasted all these pleasures with a high relish : yet he did not dare to give his heart up to their influence : since he had experienced in the island of Calipso, to his great confusion and disgrace, how easily a young mind is inflamed, he regarded all pleasures, however innocent, with distrust and dread ; and watched the looks of Mentor, to discover what he thought of these.

Mentor was pleased with his embarrassment, but without seeming to discover it : at length, however, touched with his self-denial, he said, with a smile, « I know of what you are afraid, and your fear does you honour ; do not, however, let it carry you too far : it is not possible to wish you the enjoyment of pleasure more earnestly than I wish it to you, provided it is a pleasure that neither inflames the passions, nor effeminates the character : your pleasures must be such as refresh and unbend the mind, such as leave you complete master of yourself ; not such as subdue you to their power. Those that I wish you do not inflame the soul with a brutal fury ; but sooth it, by a sweet and gentle influence, to a pure and peaceful enjoyment. You have endured toil and danger ; and relaxation and solace are now necessary : accept, then, with gratitude to Adoam, the pleasures that he now offers you ; enjoy them, my dear Telemachus, enjoy them without fear or restraint. There is neither austerity nor affectation in wisdom, who is, indeed, the parent of delight ; for she alone has the secret of intermixing sports and merriment, with serious thought and important labour ; by labour she gives poignancy to pleasure, and by pleasure she restores vigour to labour : Wisdom blushes not to be merry, when she sees a fit occasion for mirth. »

todo de radiantes estrellas , servian á hacer aun mas ameno el deleite de la funcion.

Telémaco, que era de un natural vivo y sensible , gustaba de todas estas diversiones ; mas no esaba entregarse á ellas con todo el corazon , despues de haber probado con vergüenza suya en la isla de Calipso quan facil es de pervertirse la juventud. Todos los gustos aun los mas inocentes le ocasionaban miedo , y qualquiera le era sospechoso. Miraba á Mentor , y por su rostro y ojos procuraba entender qué juicio formaba de estos placeres.

Mentor se complacia mucho , viendole en semejante confusion , y fingia no percibirlo. Finalmente , movido de la moderacion de Telémaco , le dixo , sonriéndose : Bien conozco qué temeis : y que mereceis alabanza por ese vuestro temor ; pero conviene que no excedais en él. Nadie deseará mas que yo , que goceis los deleites ; pero que sean tales , que no exciten en vos alguna pasion violenta , ni os roben el corazon. Es menester que poseais lo placeres ; no que los placeres os posean á vos. Os deseo placeres moderados y dulces , que no os obscurezcan la razon , y que nunca os transformen en una bestia , agitada con los estímulos del furor. Ahora es la ocasion de recobraros de todos vuestros trabajos. Camplaced á Adoamo , gustando de la diversion que os ofrece. Alegraos , Telémaco , alegraos : no tiene la virtud austeridad , ni afeites. Ella da los deleites verdaderos : ella sola los sabe sazonar para hacerlos puros y duraderos : ella sabe con las ocupaciones graves , y serias mezclar el entretenimiento y la risa : dispone con el trabajo el recreo , y con el recreo resarce la fatiga. No se averguenza nunca la virtud de parecer alegre quando conviene.

Mentor, as he pronounced these words, took up - lyre, which he touched with so much skill, that Archias, struck with surprise and jealousy, suffered his own instrument to drop from his hand; his eyes sparkled, his countenance changed colour, and his anguish and confusion would have been remarked by all present, if their attention had not been wholly engrossed by the music of Mentor: they were afraid even to breathe, lest they should mingle any other sound with his harmony, and lose some strain of his enchanting song. Their enjoyment would, indeed, have been perfect, if they had not feared it would end too soon; for the voice of Mentor, though it had no effeminate softness, was capable of all the varieties of modulation; it was equally melodious and strong; and had an expression perfectly adapted to the sentiment, even in the minutest particular.

He first sung the praises of Jupiter, the father and the sovereign of gods and men, who shakes the universe with a nod; he then represented, under the figure of Minerva issuing from his head, that wisdom, which, proceeding from himself, as its only and eternal source, is diffused in boundless emanation, to irradiate such created minds as are open to receive it. These truths he sung in such a strain of unaffected piety, and with such a sense of their sublimity and importance, that his audience imagined themselves transported to the summit of Olympus, and placed in the presence of Jupiter, whose eye is more piercing than his thunder. He then sung the fate of Narcissus, who becoming enamoured of his own beauty, at which he gazed incessantly from the brink of a fountain that reflected it, pined away with ineffectual desire, and was changed into a flower that bears his name; and he last celebrated the untimely death of the beautiful Adonis, who perished by the tusks of a boar, and whom Venus, unable to revive, lamented with unavailing grief.

The passions of the audience corresponded with the subject of the song; they melted silently into tears, and felt an inexpressible delight in their grief. When the music was at an end, the Phœnicians looked round

Diciendo estas palabras, tomó Mentor una lira, y la tañó con tal arte, que Arquítóo zeloso dexó caer de envidia la suya : encendiéronsele los ojos, y turbado su rostro, trocó de color. Todos hubieran notado su dolor, y vergüenza, si en aquel punto mismo la lira de Mentor no hubiera arrebatado el ánimo de los que se hallaban presentes. Apenas se atrevían á respirar, por no perturbar el silencio, y perder algun punto de su divino canto, y temían continuamente que se acabara presto. No tenia la voz de Mentor dulzura afeminada; pero era firme y flexible, y expresaba al vivo, y perfectamente hasta las cosas mas mínimas.

Cantó primeramente los loores de Júpiter, padre y Rey de los dioses y de los hombres, que estremece al orbe con una insinuacion, ó una señá de su voluntad. Representó despues á Minerva, que fué parto de su cabeza, esto es, á la sabiduría que el mismo dios engendra dentro de sí mismo, y sale fuera de él, para amaestrar á los mortales dóciles. Cantó esto con un tono de voz tan religioso y sublime, que pareció al concurso haberse trasportado al mas alto sitio del cielo en presencia de Júpiter, cuya vista penetra mucho mas que su voz. Cantó despues la desgracia del joven Narciso, que enamorado neciamente de su hermosura propia, la qual siempre miraba desde la orilla de una clara fuente, se consumió á la fuerza del dolor, y fué transformado en la flor que hoy recuerda su nombre. Finalmente cantó tambien la funesta muerte del galán Adónis; que fué despedazado de un jabalí, no pudiendo restituírle la vida, por mas que presentó sus lamentos al cielo, para satisfacer á su excesivo amor la poderosa Venus.

Todos los que le oyeron, no pudieron detener las lágrimas, y cada uno sentia un no sé qué placer en el llanto. Quando concluyó su canto, los Fenicios atónitos se miraban unos á otros. Este es Orfeo, decía el

upon each other with astonishment and admiration. One said, « This is certainly Orpheus ! and these are the strains by which he tamed the wild beast of the desert, and gave motion to trees and rocks : it was thus that he enchanted Cerberus, suspended the torments of Ixion and the Danaïds, and touched with pity the inexorable breast of Pluto, who permitted him to lead back the fair Eurydice from his dominions. » Another said, it was Linus, the son of Apollo ; and a third, that it was Apollo himself. Even Telemachus was little less surprised than the rest ; for he did not know that Mentor had been so excellent a proficient in music.

Achitoas, who had now sufficiently recollected himself to conceal his jealousy, began an encomium upon Mentor, but he blushed as he spoke, and found himself unable to proceed. Mentor, who perceived his confusion, was desirous to hide it from others ; and seeing he could not go on, he began to speak, that he might appear to interrupt him ; he also endeavoured to console him, by giving him the praise due to his merit. Achitoas, however, could not be consoled ; for he felt, that Mentor surpassed him yet more in generosity than in skill.

In the mean time, Telemachus addressed himself to Adoam : « I remember, » said he, that you mentioned a voyage you made to Bœtica, since we returned together from Egypt : Bœtica is a country, concerning which many wonders are related, which it is difficult to believe : tell me, therefore, whether they are true ? » — « I shall be glad, » said Adoam, « to describe that country to you ; for it is well worthy your curiosity, and is yet more extraordinary than fame has reported it.

« The river Bœtis flows through a fertile country, where the air is always temperate, and the sky serene. This river, which gives name to the country, falls into the ocean near the pillars of Hercules ; not far from the place where the sea heretofore, breaking its bounds, separated the country of Tarsis from the

uno : de esta suerte con una lira amansaba las bestias fieras , y arrastraba tras sí las selvas y peñascos : así cantó al Cerbero , y hizo que cesaran por algun tiempo los tormentos de Ixion , y de las hijas de Danae , y así movió á piedad al inexorable Pluton , para sacar del infierno á la bella Eurídice. Otro gritaba : No , que este es Lino , hijo de Apolo. Os engañais , replicaba aquel , que sin duda es Apolo mismo. Telémaco no estaba ménos admirado que los demas , porque ignoraba que Mentor sabía con tanta perfeccion cantar , y tañer la lira.

Arquitoó , que habia tenido tiempo de ocultar sus celos , empezó á alabar á Mentor ; sin embargo alabándole , le salieron los colores al rostro , y no pudo acabar de hablar. Mentor , que reparaba su turbacion , prosiguió hablando , como queriéndole interrumpir , y le procuró consolar , dándole todos los elogios que merecia. Arquitoó no por eso se consoló , porque veia que le excedia Mentor , aunque mas con su modestia , que con la suavidad de su voz.

En esto dixo Telemaco á Adoamo : Me acuerdo que me habeis hablado de un viage que hicisteis á la Bética despues que nos salimos de Egipto. La Bética es pais , de que se cuentan tantas cosas maravillosas , que apenas se pueden creer : tened á bien noticiarme , si es verdad , todo lo que de ella se dice. Tendré gran gusto , respondió Adoamo , de haceros la descripcion de aquel pais famoso , digno de vuestra curiosidad , y que sobrepaja á todo lo que de él publica la fama. Y luego comenzó en esta forma.

El rio Betis corre por un pais fértil , y baxo un apacible clima , cuyo cielo está siempre sereno. Ha tomado el pais nombre del rio , que desemboca en el Océano , muy cercano de las columnas de Hércules , y de aquella parte en donde el mar furioso , rompiendo sus orillas , separó en lo pasado la tierra de Tarsis de la grande

vast continent of Africa. This region seems to have preserved all the felicity of the golden age. In the winter, the freezing breath of the north is never felt, and the season is, therefore, mild; but, in summer, there are always refreshing gales from the west, which blow about the middle of the day, and in this season, therefore, the heat is never intense; so that spring and autumn, espoused as it were to each other, walk hand in hand through the year. The vallies and the plains yield annually a double harvest; the hedges consist of laurels, pomegranates, jasmines, and other trees, that are not only always green, but in flower; the mountains are covered with flocks, whose wool, for its superior fineness, is sought by all nations. This beautiful country contains also many mines of gold and silver; but the inhabitants, happy in their simplicity; disdain to count silver and gold among their riches; and value that only which contributes to supply the real and natural wants of mankind.

« When we first traded with these people, we found gold and silver used for ploughshares: and, in general, employed promiscuously with iron. As they carried on no foreign trade, they had no need of money; they were, almost all, either shepherds or husbandmen; for as they suffered no arts to be exercised among them, but such as tended immediately to answer the necessities of life, the number of artificers was consequently small: besides, a greater part, even of those that live by husbandry, or keeping of sheep, are skilful in the exercise of such arts, as are necessary to manners so simple and frugal.

« The women are employed in spinning the wool; and manufacturing it into stuffs, that are remarkably fine and white; they also make the bread, and dress the victuals, which costs them very little trouble, for they live chiefly upon fruits and milk, animal food being seldom eaten among them; of the skins of their sheep they make a light sort of covering for their legs and feet, with which they furnish their husbands and children: the women also make the habitations, which

Africa Parece que conserva aquel pais las delicias del siglo de oro : los inviernos allí son templados , y nunca soplan los desapiadados Aquilones : el ardor del Estío se templa siempre con los frescos céfiros que ácia la hora de medio dia vienen á templar el ambiente. Así que todo el año no es sino un maridage feliz de la Primavera y Otoño , que parece se estan dando la mano. La tierra en los collados , y en las llanuras produce todo el año duplicada cosecha. Las montañas estan cubiertas de ganados , que rinden lana finísima , buscada de todos los pueblos que se conocen. Hay en aquella tan hermosa tierra muchas minas de plata y oro ; pero los naturales , sencillos y felices con su simplicidad no se dignan ni aun de contar entre sus riquezas el oro y la plata. No aprecian sino lo que verdaderamente sirve á las urgencias humanas.

Quando empezamos nuestro comercio con aquellos pueblos , encontramos entre ellos empleado el oro y la plata en los usos mismos del hierro ; como seria , si se aplicaran á los arados para romper la tierra. Como ellos no tenian algun comercio fuera del pais propio , así no tenian necesidad de moneda alguna. Casi todos ellos se ocupan , ó en cultivar la tierra ó en la cria y guarda del ganado. No se ven entre ellos muchos artesanos ; porque no quieren permitir sino las artes que sirven á lo que de preciso han menester los hombres. Fuera de esto , siendo la mayor parte dados al cultivo del campo , y á criar ganado , no dexan con todo eso de exercer las artes necesarias á su vida sencilla y parca.

Las mugeres hilan aquella bellísima lana , y hacen paños finos y de maravillosa blancura. Ellas hacen el pan , disponen la comida y les es fácil este trabajo , porque no se alimentan sino de fruta y leche , y raras veces de carne. De las pieles de los carneros hacen calzados ligeros para sí mismas , para sus maridos y para sus hijos. Hacen tiendas ; algunas de las quales son de pieles enceradas , y otras de cortezas de árboles : lavan sus vestidos : tienen las casas con un asé , y orden

are a kind of tents, covered either with waxed skins or the bark of trees; they make and wash all the clothes of the family, and keep their houses in great neatness and order; their clothes, indeed, are easily made; for, in that temperate climate, they wear only a piece of fine white stuff, which is not formed to the shape of the body, but wrapped round it so as to fall in long plaits, and take what figure the wearer thinks fit.

« The men cultivate the ground, and manage their flocks; and the other arts which they practise, are those only of forming wood and iron into necessary utensils; and of iron they make little use, except in instruments of tillage: all the arts that relate to architecture, are useless to them; for they build no houses: It shews too much regard to the earth, say they, to erect a building upon it which will last longer than ourselves; if we are defended from the weather, it is sufficient. — As to the other arts, which are so highly esteemed in Greece, in Egypt, and in all other nations that have admitted the innumerable wants of polished life, they hold them in the greatest detestation; as the inventions of vanity and voluptuousness.

« When they are told of nations who have the art of erecting superb buildings, and of making splendid furniture of silver and gold, stuffs adorned with embroidery and jewels, exquisite perfumes, delicious meats, and instruments of music; they reply, that the people of such nations are extremely unhappy, to have employed so much ingenuity and labour to render themselves at once corrupt and wretched. — These superfluities, say they, effeminate, intoxicate, and torment those who possess them: and tempt those who possess them not, to acquire them by fraud and violence. Can that superfluity be good, which tends only to make men evil? Are the people of these countries more healthy or more robust than we are? Do they live longer, or agree better with each other? Do they enjoy more liberty, tranquillity, and cheerfulness? On the contrary, are they not jealous of each other? Are not their hearts corroded with envy, and agitated by ambition, avarice, and terror? Are they not incapa-

maravilloso , y trabajan toda la ropa de la familia. Es el vestido fácil de hacer , porque en un clima tan templado no se lleva sino un pedazo de paño fino , y ligero , no cortado al talle ; sino que cada uno lo ciñe al cuerpo con muchos pliegues para decencia , dandole la figura de que mas gusta.

Los hombres á mas de su ganado y tierras , no tienen otras artes que exercitar sino las que sirven para trabajar con el hierro , y la madera. No se sirven del hierro sino en los instrumentos necesarios á la agricultura. Son para ellos inútiles las demas artes , que miran á la arquitectura ; porque jamas fabrican casa alguna. Esto es , dicen , asirse demasiado á la tierra , hacerse habitacion que dure mucho mas que nosotros : bastanos defendernos de las inclemencias del ayre. Respeto de todas las otras artes estimadas de los Egipcios , los Griegos y demas pueblos bien gobernados , las detestan , como invenciones de la soberbia y afeminacion.

Quando se les habla de aquellos pueblos , que tienen la arte de labrar edificios magníficos , muebles de oro y plata , paños realzados de bordaduras , y de piedras preciosas , exquisitos perfumes , deliciosos manjares , instrumentos que alhagan con la armonía , responden á este modo : Son muy desventurados esos pueblos , empleando tanto trabajo , é industria en adulterarse á sí propios. La superfluidad afemina , embriaga y atormenta á los que la tienen ; provoca á los que de ella carecen , á que la adquieran con injusticia y violencia. ¿ Puede darse nombre de bien á lo sobrado , que no sirve para otra cosa , que para los malos hombres ? ¿ Los hombres de esos paises son por ventura mas sanos y de mas robustez que nosotros ? ¿ Viven mas largo tiempo ? ¿ Son mas pacíficos entre sí mismos ? ¿ Tienen vida mas quieta , mas libre , mas agradable ? Al contrario , deben de ser zelosos unos de otros , carcomidos de una vil , é iniqua envidia , siempre inquietos con la ambicion , el miedo y la avaricia ,

ble of pleasures that are pure and simple ? and is not this incapacity , the unavoidable consequence of the innumerable artificial wants to which they are enslaved , and upon which they make all their happiness depend ?

« Such , » said Adoam , « are the sentiments of this sagacious people , who have acquired wisdom only by the study of nature. They consider our refinements with abhorrence ; and it must be confessed , that , in their simplicity , there is something not only amiable , but great. They live in common , without any partition of lands. The head of every family is its king : this patriarchal monarch has a right to punish his children , or his grand children , if they are guilty of a fault ; but he first takes the advice of his family : punishment , indeed , is very rare among them : for innocence of manners , sincerity of heart , and hatred of vice , seem to be the natural productions of the country. Astrea , who is said to have quitted the earth , and ascended to heaven , seems still to be hidden among these happy people : they have no need of judges , for every man submits to the jurisdiction of conscience. They possess all things in common ; for the cattle produce milk , and the fields and orchards fruit and grain of every kind in such abundance , that a people so frugal and temperate have no need of property. They have no fixed place of abode ; but when they have consumed the fruits , and exhausted the pasturage , of one part of the paradise which they inhabit , they remove their tents to another : they have , therefore , no opposition of interest , but are connected by a fraternal affection which there is nothing to interrupt. This peace , this union , this liberty , they preserve , by rejecting superfluous wealth , and deceitful pleasure ; they are all free , and they are all equal.

« Superior wisdom , the result either of long experience or uncommon abilities , is the only mark of distinction among them ; the sophistry of fraud , the cry of violence , the contention of the bar , and the tumult of battle , are never heard in this sacred region , which the gods have taken under their imme-

é incapaces de aquellos gustos , que son sencillos y puros , porque sirven de esclavos á tantas falsas necesidades , de las quales hacen que esté pendiente la felicidad de sus vidas.

Así , proseguia Adoamo , hablan aquellos hombres , que no han aprendido prudencia sino estudiando la perfecta naturaleza. Tienen tambien horror á nuestra galantería , y es menester confesar , que la de estos pueblos es muy grande en su candidez. Viven todos juntos , sin dividir las tierras , y cada familia se gobierna por su cabeza , que es en ella el verdadero Rey , que la rige á su voluntad. El padre de familias tiene derecho á castigar á cada uno de sus hijos ó nietos , que hace una mala accion ; pero antes de dar el castigo , consulta lo restante de la familia. Casi nunca sucede que se castigue á alguno , porque las inocentes costumbres , la buena fe , la obediencia , el odio al vicio , viven en aquel dichoso pais. Parece que Astrea , la qual dicen que se retiró al cielo , está todavía en el mundo escondida entre ellos. No tienen necesidad de jueces ; porque los suplen sus conciencias mismas. Son comunes los bienes : los frutos de los árboles , las legumbres , la leche , son riquezas tan abundantes , que estos pueblos tan templados y moderados no han menester partirlas. En tan bello pais toda familia es andante , y transporta sus tiendas de un territorio á otro , quando ha consumido el fruto , y los pastos de aquel lugar en que estaba primero. De esta suerte no tienen rentas que defender los unos de los otros , y se aman todos con amor fraterno , que ninguna cosa perturba. Lo que les mantiene esta paz , esta concordia , y esta libertad , es la privacion voluntaria de las vanas riquezas y engañosos placeres.

Todos son libres , todos iguales , y no hay entre ellos otra preeminencia , que la que se origina de la experiencia de los ancianos sabios , ó de la rara prudencia de algunos jóvenes , que igualan á los viejos consumados en la virtud. En aquel pais amado de los dioses nunca explican su voz bárbara y pestilente el en-

diate protection : this soil has never been distained with human blood ; and even that of a lamb has rarely been shed upon it. — When the inhabitants are told of bloody battles , rapid conquests , and the subversion of empires , which happen in other countries , they stand aghast with astonishment : — What , say they , do not men die fast enough , without being destroyed by each other ? Can any man be insensible of the brevity of life ; and can he who knows it , think life too long ? Is it possible to suppose , that mankind came into the world , merely to propagate misery , and to harass and destroy one another ?

Neither can the inhabitants of Bœtica comprehend , how those , who , by subjugating great empires , obtain the name of conquerors , came to be so much the object of admiration. — To place happiness in the government of others , say they , is madness , since to govern well , is a painful task ; but a desire to govern others against their will , is madness in a still greater degree ; a wise man cannot , without violence to himself , submit to take upon him the government of a willing people , whom the gods have committed to his charge , or who apply to him for guidance and protection ; to govern people against their will , is to become miserable , for the false honour of holding others in slavery. A conqueror is one whom the gods , provoked by the wickedness of mankind , send , in their wrath upon the earth , to ravage kingdoms ; to spread round them in a vast circle , terror , misery , and despair ; to destroy the brave , and enslave the free : has not he , who is ambitious of glory , sufficient opportunities of acquiring it , by managing with wisdom , what the gods have entrusted to his care ? can it be imagined , that praise is merited only by arrogance and injustice , by usurpation and tyranny ? War should never be thought of , but in the defence of liberty : happy is he , who not being the slave of another , is free from the frantic ambition of making another a slave to him ! These conquerors who are represented as encircled with glory , resemble rivers that have overflowed their banks , which appear majestic ,

gaño, la violencia, el perjurio, los pleytos, y las guerras. Allí la tierra no se tiñó jamas de sangre humana, y apenas se ha visto correr sino la de las reses. Quando se les notician las sangrientas batallas, las veloces conquistas, las ruinas de Estados, que se ven entre otras naciones, no pueden acabarse de admirar. ¿Qué, dicen ellos, no son los hombres harto mortales, sin que se den una pronta muerte unos á otros? ¡La vida, que es tan breve, parece á esos hombres tan dilatada! ¿Estan ellos sobre la tierra, para despedazarse entre sí propios, y hacerse mutuamente infelices?

A mas de esto los pueblos de la Betica no pueden entender cómo se admira tanto á los conquistadores, que sojuzgan grandes Imperios. ¡Qué locura! exclaman, es el poner la felicidad propia en regir á otros hombres, cuyo gobierno es de tanto peso si se maneja con razon, y conforme á las reglas de la justicia? ¿Pero qué deleite es el gobernarlos á pesar suyo? Todo quanto puede obrar un hombre prudente, es sujetarse á mandar á un pueblo dócil, de quien Dios le ha dado el encargo, ó á un pueblo, que le ruega quiera ser como su padre y su pastor: pero gobernar los pueblos contra su gusto, es hacerse desgraciadísimo, por tener la aparente gloria de tenerlos como esclavos. El conquistador es un hombre, que indignados los dioses contra el linage humano, han dado al mundo, estando arrebatados del ímpetu de su saña, para destruir los reinos; para difundir el espanto por todas partes, junto con la miseria y con el despecho; y para hacer de hombres libres otros tantos esclavos. ¿Un hombre que solicita la gloria, acaso no la encuentra suficiente en regir con prudencia aquellos pueblos, que los dioses le han sujetado? ¿Cree por suerte, que no puede ser digno de algun elogio, sino haciendose injusto, violento, altivo, usurpador, y tirano de sus vecinos? No es menester pensar jamas en guerra, sino para defensa de la libertad. ¡Dichoso aquel, que no siendo esclavo de otros, no tiene la loca ambicion de hacerlos sus esclavos! Esos grandes conquistadores, que se nos representan con tanta gloria, parecen á los rios, que

indeed , but which desolate the countries they ought to fertilize. »

After Adoam had given this description of Bœtica , Telemachus , who had listened to it with great delight , asked him several questions , which would not have been suggested by common curiosity. « Do the inhabitants of Bœtica , » said he , « drink wine ? » — « They are so far from drinking wine ! » said Adoam , « that they make none ; not because they are without grapes , for no country in the world produces them in greater plenty or perfection ; but they content themselves with eating them as they do other fruit , and are afraid of wine as the corrupter of mankind : — Wine , they say , is a species of poison , which produces madness : which does not kill men , indeed , but degrades them into brutes. Men may preserve their health , and their vigour , without wine ; but , with wine , not their health only , but their virtue is in danger. »

Telemachus then inquired , what laws were established in Bœtica , relating to marriage.

« No man , » said Adoam , « is allowed to have more than one wife ; and every man is obliged to keep his wife as long as she lives : in this country a man's reputation depends as much upon his fidelity to his wife , as a woman's reputation , in other countries , depends upon her fidelity to her husband. No people ever practised so scrupulous a decorum , or were so jealous of their chastity. Their women are beautiful , and have that sweet and tender sensibility , which is more than beauty ; but they borrow no advantages from art ; there is all the simplicity of nature , both in their manners , and their dress ; and they take their share of the labour of the day. Their marriages are peaceable , fruitful , and undefiled : the husband and wife seem to be two bodies animated by one soul , the husband manages affairs without , and the wife within ; she provides for his refreshment at his return , and seems to live only to please him ; she gains his confidence ; and as she charms him yet more by her virtue than her beauty , their happiness is such as death only can

salen de sus cáuces, los quales con su magestuoso curso asolan las fértiles campañas, que solamente habian de regar.

Despues que hizo Adoamo esta descripcion de la Bética, muy contento Telémaco, le hizo varias preguntas con curiosidad. ¿Esos pueblos, le dixo, beben vino? No acostumbran beberle, respondió Adoamo, porque no lo han querido hacer jamas: no es porque no tengan ellos abundancia de uvas; pues ninguna tierra las produce mejores, sino porque se satisfacen con comerlas de la misma manera que las demas frutas; y tienen miedo al vino, como el perverso de los hombres. Es una especie, dicen, de veneno, que hace al hombre frenético, pero no cadáver, y lo transforma en bruto. Pueden los hombres conservar sin vino la salud, y sin gastar con él las buenas costumbres.

Yo quisiera saber, replicó Telémaco, qué leyes son las que esa nacion observa en los matrimonios.

Cada uno, volvió á responder Adoamo, no puede tener mas que una sola muger, la qual esta obligado á mantener mientras vive. La honra de los hombres depende tanto en aquel pais de su fidelidad á las mugeres, quanto la de las mugeres depende de su fidelidad á los maridos. No se conoció pueblo ni mas honesto, ni mas zeloso de la pureza. Las mugeres allí son bellas y graciosas; pero sencillas, honestas y laboriosas: al paso que los maridos son pacíficos, fecundos y sin defectos. Parece que el marido, y la muger en dos cuerpos distintos no tienen mas que una alma. Entre ambos se dividen todos los cuidados domésticos: el marido regula todos los negocios de afuera, y la muger no tiene mas que hacer, que el gobierno interior de casa. Ella consuela al marido en sus trabajos, y parece que ha nacido para solo darle gusto: gana su confianza, y rinde más con su virtud que con su hermosura, haciendo siempre mas apacible, y mas amable su compañía, que no dura ménos que la vida. La templanza, la moderacion y las costumbres puras del

destroy. From this temperance, sobriety, and simplicity of manners, they derive longevity and health; and it is common to see among them, men of an hundred, or an hundred and twenty years old, who have all the cheerfulness and vigour that make life desirable. »

« But how, » said Telemachus, « do they escape the calamities of war? are they never invaded by other nations? »

« Nature, » says Adoam, « has separated them from other nations, by the sea, on one side, and by mountains almost inaccessible on the other; besides, their virtue has impressed foreign powers with reverence and awe. When any contest arises among the neighbouring states, they frequently make a common deposit of the territory in question, in the hands of the Bœtians, and appoint them arbitrators of the dispute. As these wise people are guilty of no violence, they are never mistrusted; and they laugh when they hear of kings who disagree about the boundaries of their country. — Are they afraid, said they, that the earth should not have room for its inhabitants? there will always be much more land than can be cultivated; and while any remains unappropriated by cultivation, who should think it folly to defend even our own against those who would invade it. These people are, indeed, wholly free from pride, fraud, and ambition; they do no injury, they violate no compact, they covet no territory; their neighbours, therefore, having nothing to fear from them, nor any hope of making themselves feared by them, give them no disturbance. They would sooner abandon their country, or die upon the spot, than submit to a state of slavery, so that the same qualities that render them incapable of subjugating others, render it almost impossible for others to subjugate them. For these reasons, there is always a profound peace between them and their neighbours. »

Adoam proceeded to give an account of the traffic which the Phœnicians carried on in Bœtica: « The inhabitants of that happy country, » said he, « were

pueblo, le dan una vida dilatada y exenta de enfermedades. En el vénse viejos de mas de cien años, que tienen aun robustez y brio.

Quédame que saber, dixo entonces Telémaco, cómo hacen para evitar la guerra con los otros pueblos vecinos.

La naturaleza, respondió Adoamo, les ha separado de los demas, por la una parte con el mar, y por la otra con algunos soberbios montes. Fuera de eso los pueblos vecinos los respetan por su virtud. Muchas veces los otros pueblos, no pudiéndose componer entre sí, los tomaron por jueces en sus disensiones, y han confiado de ellos las tierras y ciudades de que litigaban. Como esta sabia nacion nunca ha hecho alguna violencia, no hay quien desconfie de ella. Ríense quando se les habla de aquellos Reyes, que no pueden convenirse en los confines de sus estados. ¿Puede temerse, dicen, que falte tierra á los hombres? Ellos tendrán siempre mas de la que puedan cultivar. Mientras que haya tierras libres, no queremos ni aun defender las nuestras contra aquellos vecinos que las quieran señorear. No se halla en todos los moradores de la Bética ni orgullo, ni altivez, ni infidelidad, ni ansia de estender su dominio. De ahí viene que sus vecinos nunca tienen que temer cosa alguna de un pueblo tal, ni pueden esperar hacerse temer de él: por eso lo dexan en paz. El, ántes que servir, abandonaria el pais, ó se dexaria matar: de donde viene á ser tan difícil el sojuzgarlo, quanto está ageno de sojuzgar á los otros. Esto es lo que entre ellos mantiene una paz tranquilísima con sus vecinos.

Feneció Adoamo su razonamiento, refiriendo de qué manera hacian los Fenicios su comercio en la Bética. Este pueblo, decia, se maravilló quando vió

astonished, when they first saw the waves bring strangers from a distant region to their coast: they received us, however, with great benevolence; and gave us part of whatever they had, without asking or expecting a return. They suffered us to establish a colony on the island of Gadir, and offered us whatever should remain of their own necessities were supplied: sending us, at the same time, a considerable quantity of it as a present; for they have great pleasure in bestowing their superfluities upon strangers.

« As to their mines they made no use of them; and therefore, without reluctance, left them entirely to us. Men, they thought, were not overwise, who, with so much labour, searched the bowels of the earth, for that which could give no true happiness, nor satisfy any natural want. They admonished us not to dig in the earth too deep: « Content yourselves, said they, with ploughing it, and it will yield you real benefits in return; it will yield those things to which gold and silver owe all their value: for gold and silver are valuable only as a means of procuring the necessities of life. »

« We frequently offered to teach them navigation, and carry some of their youth with us to Phœnicia; but they never would consent that their children should live as we do. « If our children were to go with you, » said they, « their wants would soon be as numerous as yours; the nameless variety of things which you have made necessary, would become necessary to them; they would be restless till these artificial wants were supplied; and they would renounce their virtue, by the practise of dishonest arts to supply them; they would soon resemble a man of good limbs, and a sound constitution, who having, by long inactivity, forgot how to walk, is under the necessity of being carried like a cripple. » As to navigation, they admire it as a curious art, but they believe it to be pernicious: « If these people, » say they, « have the necessities of life in their own country, what do they seek in ours? Will not those things which satisfy the wants of nature; satisfy their wants? Surely, they that defy the tempest, to gratify avarice or luxury, deserve shipwreck. »

llegar átravesando el mar hombres extranjeros de tan distantes tierras. Acogiónos la gente con afabilidad , y partió con nosotros todo lo que tenía , sin querer paga alguna por ello. Ofrecierónnos toda aquella lana , que les sobraba despues de haber hecho la provision que necesitaban para su uso ; y en efecto nos hicieron de ella un copioso presente. Es para ellos de sumo gusto dar liberalmente lo que les sobra á los extranjeros.

En quanto á sus minas , no tuviéron dificultad ninguna de abandonárnoslas , porque les eran totalmente inútiles. Parecíales , que los hombres no eran prudentes , yéndose á buscar con tanta fatiga en las entrañas de la tierra , lo que no puede hacerlos felices , ni satisfacer á alguna verdadera necesidad. No caveis tan profundamente la tierra , nos decian : contentaos con trabajarla. Ella os dará riquezas verdaderas que os alimentarán , y sacaréis de ella los frutos , que valen mas que el oro y la plata , porque no quieren los hombres la plata y el oro , sino para comprar el sustento de la vida.

Varias veces quisimos enseñarles el arte de navegar y pasar á Fenicia los mancebos de su pais ; pero nunca los padres han querido que aprendieran sus hijos á vivir de la suerte que nosotros. Aprenderian ellos , nos decian , á necesitar de todas las cosas , que se os han hecho necesarias : querrian alcanzarlas , y dexarian por ellas la virtud , y se harian como aquel hombre que tiene buenas piernas ; pero perdiendo el uso de caminar , se halla finalmente en la necesidad de ser siempre llevado de agena mano , como un enfermo debil. La navegacion la admiran por la industria del arte ; mas la tienen por arte demasiado dañosa. Si los hombres , dicen , tienen bastantemente en su pais lo que es necesario á la vida , ¿ Qué es aquello que van á buscar en los extraños ? No les basta lo que es bastante á la precision de la vida ? Merecerian hacer naufragio , porque por hartar su avaricia , van á buscar la muerte entre las tempestades.

Telemachus listened to this discourse of Adoam with unspeakable delight ; and rejoiced that there was yet a people in the world , who , by a perfect conformity to the law of nature , were so wise and so happy : « How different , » said he , « are the manners of this nation from those which , in nations that have obtained the highest reputation for wisdom , are tainted throughout with vanity and ambition ! To us the follies that have depraved us are so habitual , that we can scarcely believe this simplicity , though it is , indeed , the simplicity of nature , can be real : we consider the manners of these people as a splendid fiction , and they ought to regard ours as a preposterous dream. »

END OF THE EIGHTH BOOK.

Tenia

Tenia sumo gusto Telémaco de oír este discurso de Adoamo, y se alegraba de que hubiera todavía en el mundo un pueblo, que siguiendo la recta razon, fuese juntamente tan sabio, y tan afortunado. ¡O cuánto, decia, estan léjos las cóstumbres buenas, de las costumbres vanas, y ambiciosas de aquellos pueblos, que son tenidos por los mas sabios! Estamos tan viciados, que apenas podemos creer que pueda ser verdadero este tan natural candor. Consideramos las costumbres de una tal gente como una linda fábula, y ella debe considerar las nuestras como un sueño monstruoso.

FIN DEL LIBRO OCTAVO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK IX.

ARGUMENT.

Venus, still incensed against Telemachus, requests of Jupiter that he may perish; but this not being permitted by the Fates, the Goddess consults with Neptune how his return to Ithaca, whither Adoam is conducting him, may be prevented. They employ an illusive divinity to deceive Athamas the pilot, who supposing the land before him to be Ithaca, enters full sail into the port of Salenfm. Telemachus is kindly received by Idomeneus in his new city, where he is preparing a sacrifice to Jupiter, that he may be successful in a war against the Mandurians. The entrails of the victims being consulted by the Priest, he perceives the omens to be happy, but declares that Idomeneus will owe his good fortune to his guests.

WHILE Telemachus and Adoam were engaged in this conversation, forgetful of sleep, and not perceiving that the night was already half spent; an unfriendly and deceitful power turned their course from Ithaca, which Athamas, their pilot, sought in vain. Neptune, although he was propitious to the Phœnicians, could not bear the escape of Telemachus from the tempest which had shipwrecked him on the island of Calypso; and Venus was still more provoked at the triumph of a youth, who had been victorious against all the power and the wiles of love. Her bosom throbbed at once with grief and indignation; and she could not endure the places where Telemachus had treated her sovereignty with contempt; turning therefore from Cythera, Paphos, and Idalia, and disregarding the homage that was paid her in the isle of Cyprus, she ascended the radiant summit of Olympus, where the gods were assembled round the throne of Jupiter. From this place they beheld the stars rolling beneath their feet: and this earth, an obscure and diminutive spot,

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO IX.

SUMARIO.

Venus se queja de Telémaco á Júpiter delante de los dioses, y pide que le quite la vida. Júpiter le responde, que los hados no lo permiten; y le otorga licencia para estorvarle el arribo á Itaca en muchos años. Pasa Venus á hablar á Neptuno, el qual por complacerla, envia un dios engañoso, que hace, que el piloto Acamante vea una fingida Itaca, á donde arriba. Acamante conoce, que la Itaca á donde llega es el pais de los Salentinos. Telémaco y Mentor desembarcados hallan á Idomenéo, que con sus amigos habia fundado en la Hesperia una nueva ciudad. Alegran á Idomenéo con la noticia del arribo de Telémaco. Acógelo muy urbanamente, y reconoce á Mentor, visto de él otras veces. Van juntos al templo de Júpiter, en donde el sacerdote les intima un oráculo ambiguo para Telémaco, que desca su explicacion.

EN tanto que Telémaco y Adoamo hablaban de esta suerte, sin acordarse de dormir; y no advirtiendo que ya la noche se hallaba á la mitad de su carrera, los alejaba de Itaca una deidad contraria y engañosa, haciendo que el piloto Acamante velara en vano por acercarse á sus playas. Neptuno, aunque propenso á los Fenicios, no podia mas tiempo tolerar que hubiera escapado Telémaco de la borrasca, que lo habia arrojado á los escollos de la isla de Calipso. Venus estaba aun mas irritada, viendo triunfar al jóven, despues de haber vencido á Cupido y todos sus hechizos. Arrebatada de su dolor, dexó á Citera, Pafos, y Idalia, y todos los honores que se le dan en Chipre, porque ya no podia sosegar en aquellos lugares donde habia despreciado Telémaco su poder. Subió pues al cielo, en donde los dioses asistian al solio de Júpiter. Desde aquel sitio ven ellos las estrellas, que circulan debaxo de sus pies; descubren el gran globo de la tierra como una bolita de lodo; y los inmensos mares, les parecen unas gotitas de agua, con que se

is scarcely distinguished among them : the vast oceans by which its continents are divided , appear but as drops of water ; and the most extended empires but as a little sand , scattered between them : the innumerable multitudes that swarm upon the surface , are but like insects , quickening in the sun ; and the most powerful armies resemble a cluster of emmets , that are contending for a grain of corn , or a blade of grass. Whatever is most important in the consideration of men , excites the laughter of the gods as the sport of children ; and what we distinguish by the names of grandeur , glory , power , and policy , are , in their sight , no better than misery and folly.

On this awful , this stupendous height , Jupiter has fixed his everlasting throne. His eyes penetrate to the centre , and pass in a moment through all the labyrinths of the heart ; his smile diffuses over all nature serenity and joy ; but at his frown , not earth only , but heaven trembles. The gods themselves are dazzled with the glory that surrounds him ; and approach not his throne , but with reverence and fear.

He was now surrounded by the celestial deities ; and Venus presented herself before him , in all the splendour of that beauty of which she is herself the source : her robe , which flowed negligently round her , exceeded in brightness all the colours with which Iris decks herself amidst the dusky clouds , when she promises to affrighted mortals , that the storm shall have an end , and that calm and sunshine shall return. Her waist was encircled by that mysterious zone , which comprises every grace that can excite desire ; and her hair was tied negligently behind , in a fillet of gold. The gods were struck with her beauty , as if they never had seen it before ; and their eyes were dazzled with its brightness , like those of mortals , when the first radiance of the sun unexpectedly breaks upon them after a long night. They glanced a hasty look of astonishment at each other , but their eyes still centered in her : they perceived , however that she had been weeping , and that grief was strongly pictured in her countenance.

baña un poco la menuda arena. Los mas crecidos Reynos no son otro á sus ojos que un poco de polvo, con que se disimula esta superficie: los numerosos pueblos, y los mas poderosos exércitos son como unas hormigas, que debaten unas con otras sobre un grano de trigo, ó una ligera paja. Riense de huestros negocios mas graves; y les parecen juegos de niños todos los que á los hombres ponen en tan grán pena. Solo á la suprema deidad parece flaqueza, y miseria lo que los hombres llaman grandeza, gloria y potencia.

En aquella morada, tan elevada sobre la tierra, ha colocado Júpiter su inmóvil trono. Sus ojos penetran hasta los abismos, y ven los mas ocultos secretos de los corazones: su vista apacible, y serena difunde en todo el orbe la tranquilidad y alegría: y al contrario, mostrandoles su ceño, estremece al cielo y la tierra. Los mismos dioses deslumbrados de los rayos de gloria que le circuyen; no se osan acercar sino con temor.

Todas las celestiales diosas le estaban asistiendo, quando Venus se presentó á sus ojos, con todos aquellos primorosos hechizos, que viven en su misma belleza. Su ropage undoso resplandecía mas que todos los colores, con que se adorna el iris en la opacidad de las nubes, viniendo á prometer el fin de la borrasca, y anunciar la serenidad al mundo melancólico. Llevaba su vestido ceñido de aquel cinto famoso, en que estan retratadas las gracias, y llevaba el cabello recogido á la espalda con una cinta de oro, pero con primoroso desaliño. Todos los dioses quedaron admirados de su belleza, como si nunca la hubieran conocido. Deslumbró sus ojos, como el sol deslumbró los de los hombres, quando viene á ilustrarlos con sus rayos despues de las tinieblas. Mirábanse asombrados unos á otros, y volvian siempre la vista á la brillante diosa; pero advirtiéronla bañada de sus lágrimas, y que descubria en su rostro un amargo dolor.

In the mean time, she advanced towards the throne of Jupiter with a light and easy motion, like the flight of a bird, which glides unresisted through the regions of the air. The god received her with a smile of divine complacency; and, rising from his seat, embraced her: « What is it, my dear child, » said he, « that has troubled you? I cannot behold your tears with indifference: fear not to tell me all that is in your heart, you know the tenderness of my affection, and my readiness to indulge your wish. »

« O father, both of gods and men, » replied the goddess, with a sweet and gentle, but interrupted voice, can you, from whom nothing is hidden, be ignorant of the cause of my distress? Minerva, not satisfied with having subverted to its foundation the superb city which was under my protection, nor with having gratified her revenge upon Paris, for judging her beauty to be inferior to mine, conducts in safety, through every nation, and over every sea, the son of Ulysses, by whose cruel subtilty the ruin of Troy was effected. Minerva is now the companion of Telemachus; and it is therefore, that her place among the deities, who surround the throne of Jupiter, is vacant: she has conducted that presumptuous mortal to Cyprus, only that he might insult me: he has despised my power; he disdained even to burn incense upon my altars; he turned with abhorrence from the feasts which are there celebrated to my honour; and he has barred his heart against every pleasure that I inspire. Neptune has, at my request, provoked the winds and waves against him in vain. He was shipwrecked in a dreadful storm upon the island of Calypso; but he has there triumphed over love himself, whom I sent to soften his unfeeling heart; neither the youth nor the beauty of Calypso and her nymphs, nor the burning shafts of immortal love, have been able to defeat the artifices of Minerva; she has torn him from that island; a stripling has triumphed over me; and I am overwhelmed with confusion. »

« It is true, my daughter, » said Jupiter, who was desirous to sooth her sorrows, « that Minerva defends the breast of Telemachus against all the arrows of your

Venia ella entre tanto ácia el trono de Júpiter con garvoso y ligero paso, á fuer del vuelo rápido de una ave, que surca la región interminable del ayre. Miróla el dios con agrado, sonriósele apaciblemente, y poniéndose en pie, la estrechó entre sus brazos. Hija querida mia, la dixo, ¿Cuál es vuestra pena? No puedo ver vuestras lágrimas, sin sentirme mover á compasion con ellas. No temais descubrirme vuestro corazon; pues teneis conocido mi cariño y mi prontitud en daros gusto.

Es posible, ó padre de los dioses, y de los hombres, le respondió Venus con una dulce voz, pero interrumpida de profundos suspiros, que á vos, que lo veis todo, se os oculta la causa de mi dolor! No se ha contentado Minerva de haber destrozado hasta los fundamentos de la soberbia ciudad de Troya, que defendia yo, y haberse vengado de Paris, que antepuso á la suya mi hermosura; sino que, á mas de esto, conduce por todas las tierras y mares al hijo de Ulises, de aquel iniquo destruidor de Troya. Minerva acompañó á Telémaco, y esta es la ocasion, porque aquí no concurre en su lugar como los otros dioses. Ella conduxo al jóven temerario á la isla de Chipre; para ultrajarme, y él ha hecho menosprecio de mi poder; ni aun se ha dignado de quemar en mis aras el incienso: ha mostrado tener horror á las fiestas, que en mi honra se celebran; y ha cerrado su corazon á todos mis placeres: sin fruto el dios Neptuno, para castigarle, ha levantado á mis ruegos los vientos y los mares contra él. Arrojado de un horrible naufragio á la isla de Calipso, ha triunfado en ella del mismo amor, que yo allá habia enviado á enternecer el pecho de este jóven griego. Ni la juventud, ni caricias de Calipso y de sus Ninfas, ni las ardientes flechas de Cupido han podido vencer las artes de Minerva que lo defiende. Ella le sacó de la isla; y yo he quedado afrentada, y un niño ha triunfado de Venus.

Júpiter á estas voces dixo por consolarla: Es verdad, hija mia, que Minerva defiende al corazon de Telémaco de todas las saetas de vuestro hijo, y que le

son; and designs a glory for him, which no youth has yet deserved. I am not pleased that he has despised your altars; but I cannot subject him to your power; I consent, however, for your sake, that he shall be still a wanderer by land and sea; that he shall be still distant from his country, and still exposed to danger and misfortune: but the Destinies forbid that he should perish; nor will they permit his virtue to be drowned in the pleasures which you vouchsafe to man. Take comfort, then, my child; remember over how many heroes and gods your sway is absolute, and be content. »

While he thus spoke, a gracious smile blended ineffable sweetness and majesty in his countenance; and a glancing radiance issued from his eye, brighter and more piercing than lightning; he kissed the goddess with tenderness, and the mountain was suffused with ambrosial odours. This favour, from the sovereign of the skies, could not fail to touch the sensibility of Venus; her countenance kindled into a lively expression of joy, and she drew down her veil to hide her blushes and confusion. The divine assembly applauded the words of Jupiter; and Venus, without losing a moment, went in search of Neptune, to concert new means of revenging herself upon Telemachus.

She told Neptune all that Jupiter had said. « I know already, » replied Neptune, « the unchangeable decrees of fate: but if we cannot overwhelm Telemachus in the deep, let us neglect nothing that may make him wretched, or delay his return to Ithaca. I cannot consent to destroy the Phœnician vessel, in which he is embarked; for I love the Phœnicians; they are my peculiar people; and they do more honour to my dominion, than any other nation on earth; they have rendered the ocean itself the bond of society, by which the most distant countries are united: their sacrifices continually smoke upon my altars; they are inflexibly just: they are the fathers of commerce, and diffuse through all nations convenience and plenty. I cannot, therefore, permit one of their vessels to suffer

previene una gloria, que nunca mereció jóven alguno. Siento que ⁴¹ haya despreciado vuestros altares; mas no puedo entregarlo á vuestro poder. Por vuestro amor permito, que Telémaco vaya aun vagabundo en tierra y mar: que viva separado de su patria, expuesto á todo mal, y á todo riesgo; mas no sufren los hados que perezca, ni tampoco que su virtud quede por despojo á los gustos con que vos engañais á los mortales. Consolaos, pues, ó Venus, y estad contenta con tener por súbditos vuestros á tantos otros héroes, y á tantos dioses.

Diciendo estas palabras, se le sonrió á Venus con magestad y agrado: salióle de los ojos un rayo luminoso, como el fuego mas penetrante; y dándole con ternura un ósculo, difundió una fragancia de ambrosia, que perfumó todo el cielo. No pudo hacer ménos la diosa sino sentir consuelo de esta demostracion de cariño del máximo de los dioses. A pesar de las lágrimas y la pena, se vió difundir la alegría por su semblante, y ella se corrió el velo para recatar su vergüenza, y el color encendido de sus mejillas. Todo el grave concurso de los dioses aplaudió las palabras de Júpiter, y Venus sin perder un momento, se fué á ver á Neptuno, para ajustar con él un modo de vengarse de Telémaco.

Contó pues á Neptuno lo que Júpiter habia dicho; mas Neptuno le respondió: Ya me era manifiesto el órden inmutable del destino; pero si no podemos sepultar á Telémaco entre las ondas, por lo ménos no dexarémos cosa para hacerlo infelice, y embarazar que luego se restituya á su patria. No puedo convenir en anegar la nave en que ahora va embarcado: estimo á los Fenicios: ellos son mi pueblo, y ninguna nacion del universo frecuenta tanto como ellos la jurisdiccion de mi Imperio. Por su causa ha venido el mar á ser el lazo de la comunicacion de todos los Reynos del mundo: ellos me ofrecen incesantemente piadosos sacrificios en mis altares: son justos, sabios y laboriosos en el comercio, y difunden por todas partes la comodidad y abundancia. No, no

shipwreck ; but I will cause the pilot to mistake his course , and steer from Ithaca , the port that he designs to make. »

Venus , satisfied with this promise , expressed her pleasure by a malignant smile ; and turned the rapid wheels of her celestial chariot over the blooming plains of Idalia , where the Graces , the Sports and Smiles expressed their joy at her return , by dancing round her upon the flowers , which , in that delightful country , variegated the ground with beauty , and impregnated the gale with fragrance.

Neptune immediately dispatched one of the deities that preside over those deceptions which resemble dreams ; except that dreams affect only those that sleep and these impose upon the waking. This malevolent power , attended by a multitude of winged illusions , that perpetually fluttered round him , shed a subtle and fascinating liquor over the eyes of Athamas the pilot , while he was attentively considering the brightness of the moon , the course of the stars , and the coast of Ithaca , the cliffs of which he discovered not far distant.

From that moment the eyes of Athamas became unfaithful to their objects , and presented to him another heaven and another earth : the stars appeared as if their course had been inverted ; Olympus seemed to move by new laws , and the earth itself to have changed its position. A false Ithaca rose up before him , while he was steering from the real country ; and the delusive shore fled as he approached it : he perceived that he did not gain upon it , and he wondered at the cause : yet sometimes he fancied he heard the noise of people in the port ; and he was about to make preparations , according to the orders he had received , for putting Telemachus on shore upon a little island adjacent to that of Ithaca , in order to conceal his return from the suitors of Penelope , who had conspired his destruction. Sometimes he thought himself in danger of the rocks which surround the coast , and imagined that he heard the dreadful roaring of the surge that broke against them : then the land suddenly appeared to be again distant ; and the mountains looked but

puedo permitir, ó diosa, que uno de sus baxeles haga naufragio; pero haré que el Piloto yerre el rumbo, y que se aleje de Itaca, a donde se pretende conducir.

Contenta Venus de esta promesa, mostró en su risa maligno agrado; y volviéndose a su ligero carro, voló á los prados florecientes de Idalia, en donde las gracias, los juegos, y la rí a, mostraron alegría de volverla á ver, danzando al rededor de la recién llegada deidad sobre las flores, que llenaron de sus fragancias aquella deleitosa mansion.

Envió luego Neptuno un numen engañoso como los sueños, si es que los sueños engañan a los dormidos, quando encanta ese numen á los sentidos de los hombres, que estan despiertos. Rodeado él de una tropa infinita de aladas mentiras, que en torno de él volaban, llegó á rociar un licor sutil, y encantado sobre los ojos del piloto Acamante, que miraba con atencion la claridad de la luna, el curso de los astros, y la playa de Itaca, cuyos inaccesibles precipicios descubria ya muy de cerca.

En aquel punto mismo no le mostraron sus ojos al piloto alguna cosa que fuese verdadera: se le puso delante un otro cielo: se le dexaron ver las estrellas, como si hubieran trocado su camino, y como si hubieran cejado de su tarea. Parecia que el cielo se movia con nuevas leyes: habíase mudado la tierra, y se le figuraba otra Itaca para engañarle, mientras se iba apartando de la verdadera. Quanto mas Acamante se engolfaba ácia la apariencia engañosa de la playa de la isla, tanto mas ella se retiraba y huía de su presencia; y él no sabia qué creerse de aquella fuga. Imaginábase alguna vez oír aquel rumor, que suele hacerse en un puerto, y ya se disponia, conforme al orden que habia recibido, de ir a desembarcar secretamente en una isla pequeña vecina á la grande, para ocultar la vuelta del jóven Principe á los amantes de Penélope, conjurados contra él. Temia alguna vez los escollos, de que está toda aquella costa ceñida, y le parecia escuchar, el horrible bramido de las ondas,

like the clouds, which sometimes obscure the horizon at the setting of the sun. Thus was Athamas astonished and confounded; and the influence of the deity which had deceived his sight, impressed a dread upon his mind, which, till then, he had never felt: he sometimes almost doubted, whether he was awake, or whether what he saw was not the illusion of a dream.

In the meantime, Neptune commanded the east wind to blow, that the vessel might be driven upon the coast of Hesperia: and the wind obeyed with such violence, that the coast of Hesperia was immediately before them. Aurora had already proclaimed the day to be at hand; and the stars, touched at once with fear and envy at the rays of the sun, retired to conceal their fading fires in the bosom of the deep; when the pilot suddenly cried out, « I am now sure of my port; the island of Ithaca is before us, and we almost touch the shore. Rejoice, O Telemachus! for, in less than an hour, you will embrace Penelope, and perhaps again behold Ulysses upon his throne. »

This exclamation roused Telemachus; who was now in a profound sleep: he awaked, started up, and running to the helm, embraced the pilot; at the same time fixing his eyes, which were scarce open, upon the neighbouring coast, the view struck him, at once, with surprise and disappointment; for, in these shores, he found no resemblance of his country. « Alas! » said he, « where are we? This is not Ithaca, the dear island that I seek. You are certainly mistaken; and are not perfectly acquainted with a country so distant from your own. » « No, replied Athamas, « I cannot be mistaken in the coast of this island; I have entered the port so often, that I am acquainted with every rock, and have not a more exact remembrance even of Tyre itself. Observe that mountain which runs out from the shore, and that rock, which rises like a tower: do not you see others, that, projecting

que se iban á estrellar contra las rocas. Notaba despues de esto , que se descubria aun la tierra muy apartada ; y en esta lejanía las montañas no eran en sus ojos sino como nubecillas , que al trasmontar el sol oscurecen el Orizonte. De esta suerte Acamante estaba atónito , y la impresion de la engañosa deidad , que le desalumbraba las pupilas , le hacia experimentar cierto miedo , que no habia hasta entónces conocido : y aun se movia á creer , que no estaba despierto , y que burlaba de su fantasía la ilusion del sueño.

Entre tanto mandó soplar Neptuno el viento del Oriente , para que impeliera el baxel ácia las riberas de Hesperia. Obedeció él con tan gran violencia , que bien presto llevó la nave á la playa que le mandó Neptuno. Ya la aurora anunciaba el día , y las estrellas ya temerosas de los rayos del sol , iban á esconder en el mar la escasa brillantez de su esplendor , quando gritó el piloto finalmente : No puedo dudar mas , que esta es la isla de Itaca , y que la tenemos tan cerca , que nos queda muy poco para arribar á ella. Alegraos, Telemaco : dentro del espacio de una hora podréis ver á Penélope , y tal vez encontrar á Ulises restituido otra vez al trono

A este grito Telémaco se despierta , por mas que era inmoble viviente á los influxos del sueño ; se levanta , salta al timón , abraza al piloto , y con los ojos aun no bien abiertos , mira de hito en hito la vecina costa , y saca de su pecho un suspiro , no reconociendo las playas de su Patria. ¡ Ay de mí ! dixo : ¿ En dónde nos hallamos ? Vos os engañais , Acamante : mal conocéis esta costa , tan distante de nuestro pais. No , no ; respondió Acamante , no puedo errar en el conocimiento de la rivera de Itaca. ¿ Cuantas veces he entrado en vuestro puerto ? Conozco hasta los mas pequeños escollos que la circuyen , y no me acuerdo menos bien de esta , que de las playas de Tiro. ¿ Conocéis aquella montaña , que se extiende ácia fuera ? ¿ Veis aquel peñasco , que se levanta como una torre ? ¿ No ois las olas que van á quebrantarse en las rocas , que hacen ademan de caer cada instante en el mar ? Mas :

from above, seem to threaten the sea with their fall ? and do you not hear the waves that break against them below ? There is the temple of Minerva , which seems to penetrate the clouds ; and there the citadel and the palace of Ulysses ! »

« Still you are mistaken , » replied Telemachus. « I see a coast which is elevated , indeed , but level and unbroken ! I perceive a city , but it is not Ithaca. Is it thus , ye gods ! that ye sport with men ? »

While Telemachus was yet speaking , the eyes of Athamas were again changed ; the charm was broken , he saw the coast as it was , and acknowledged his mistake. « I confess , » said he , « O Telemachus ! that some unfriendly power has fascinated my sight. I thought I beheld the coast of Ithaca , of which a perfect image was represented to me , that is now vanished like a dream. I now see another city , and know it to be Salentum , which Idomeneus , a fugitive from Crete , is founding in Hesperia : I perceive rising walls as yet unfinished ; and I see a port not entirely fortified. »

While Athamas was remarking the various works which were carrying on in this rising city , and Telemachus was deploring his misfortunes , the wind , which Neptune had commanded to blow , carried them with full sails into the road , where they found themselves under shelter , and very near the port.

Mentor , who was neither ignorant of the resentment of Neptune , nor the cruel artifices of Venus , only smiled at the mistake of Athamas. When they had got safe into the road , « Jupiter tries you , » said he to Telemachus , « but he will not suffer you to perish ; he tries you , that he may open before you the path of glory. Remember the labours of Hercules , and let the achievements of your father be always present to your mind ; he that knows not how to suffer , has no greatness of soul. You must weary fortune who delights to persecute you , by patience and fortitude ; and be assured , that you are much less endangered by the displeasure of Neptune , than by the caresses of Ca-

¿No advertís el templo de Minerva, que llega á hender las nubes? Mirad la fortaleza, y el palacio de Ulises, vuestro padre.

Estais engañado, Acamante, le replicó Telémaco. Veo por el contrario una costa muy retirada, mas llana, y advierto una ciudad que ciertamente no es la de Itaca. ¿De esta manera, ó dioses, os burlais de los hombres!

Mientras Telémaco decia estas palabras, se hizo en los ojos de Acamante una mutacion repentina: vió la playa qual era en la verdad y conoció su error. Confiésolo, Telémaco, dixo entónces gritando: alguna deidad enemiga me habia encantado los ojos. Pareciame ver á Itaca, y se me figuraba su imagen del todo entera; pero en este momento desaparece como si fuera un sueño. Veo otra ciudad, y es de cierto Salento, que ha fundado en la Hesperia nuevamente Idomeáneo, fugitivo de Creta: descubro las murallas, que se van levantado, y aun no estan concluidas; y reconozco un puerto, que no está enteramente fortificado.

Mientras que registraba Acamante los diferentes nuevos trabajos de aquella reciente ciudad; y mientras que gemia Telémaco su desgracia, el viento que Neptuno habia mandado soplar, les hizo á velas llenas entrar en nn sitio del mar, en donde iba el baxel rozando con el suelo, y al cabo se halló en salvo en las cercanías del puerto.

Mentor, á quien no se ocultaba, ni la venganza que habia intentado Neptuno, ni el cruel artificio de Venus, no habia hecho sino reirse del error de Acamante. Quando estuviéron en aquel trecho de mar poco profundo, dixo á Telémaco: Júpiter hacé prueba de vos, mas no os quiere perdido; antes por lo contrario no os prueba sino para abriros la senda por donde se llega á la gloria. Acordaos de las fatigas de Hércules, tened continuamente á los ojos las de vuestro padre. El que no sabe padecer, no tiene gran razon. Conviene detener con vuestra paciencia, y detenido el ímpetu de la cruel fortuna, que se deleita con perseguiros. Méenos os temo las mas espantosas des-

lypso. But why do we delay to enter the harbour? the people here are our friends, for they are natives of Greece; and Idomeneus, having himself been ill treated by fortune, will naturally be touched with pity at our distress. » They immediately entered the port of Salentum, where the Phœnicians were admitted without scruple; for they are at peace, and in trade, with every nation upon earth.

Telemachus looked upon that rising city with admiration. As a young plant that has been watered with the dews of the night feels the glow of the morning sun, grows under the genial influence, opens its buds, unfolds its leaves, spreads out its odoriferous flowers, variegated with a thousand dyes, and discloses every moment some fresh beauty; so flourished this infant city of Idomeneus on the borders of the deep. It rose into greater magnificence every hour; and discovered in a distant prospect, to the strangers that approached it by sea, new ornaments of architecture, that seemed to reach the clouds. The whole coast resounded with the voices of workmen, and the strokes of the hammer, and huge stones were seen suspended from pulleys in the air. As soon as the morning dawned, the people were animated to their labour by their chiefs; and Idomeneus himself being present to dispense his orders, the works were carried on with incredible expedition.

As soon as the Phœnician vessel came to shore, the Cretans received Telemachus and Mentor with all the tokens of a sincere friendship; and immediately acquainted Idomeneus, that the son of Ulysses was arrived in his dominions. « The son of Ulysses, » said he, « of my dear friend Ulysses! of him, who is at once a hero and a sage; by whose counsel alone, the destruction of Troy was accomplished! Let him be conducted hither, that I may convince him how much I loved his father! » Telemachus being then presented to him; told him his name, and then demanded the rights of hospitality.

gracias con que os ha amenazado Neptuno, que temia las engañosas caricias de la diosa, que os tenia en su isla. ¿ En qué nos detenemos? Entremos en el puerto, en que hallaremos un pueblo amigo, porque los moradores de este pais son Griegos. Idomenéo, tan maltratado de la fortuna, tendrá compasion de los desdichados. Al punto entraron en el puerto de Salento, donde el baxel Fenicio sin alguna dificultad fué recibido, porque estan los Fenicios en paz, y tienen trato con todas las Naciones del universo.

Miraba admirado Telémaco á aquella poderosa ciudad, como una planta nueva, que ha sido recreada con el suave rocío de la noche, y sintiendo despues á la mañana los rayos primeros del sol, que la llegan á arrebolar, crece, abre sus tiernos cogollos, extiende sus verdes hojas, descoge la fragancia de sus flores con mil colores varios, y á qualquiera mirada que se le dé, siempre se halla con algun nuevo adorno. Así la ciudad nueva de Idomenéo florecia sobre la playa del mar cada dia: cada hora crecia con magnificencia, y mostraba de léjos á los extrangeros navegantes nuevos primores de arquitectura, que se elevaban al cielo. Los gritos de los artífices, y golpes de los martillos hacían resonar toda la rivera: las piedras estaban pendientes en el ayre con máquinas, y con gruesas cuerdas: todos los principales animaban al pueblo para el trabajo al punto que la aurora amanecía, y el mismo Rey Idomenéo, dando por todas partes sus órdenes, hacia adelantar la labor con diligencia increíble.

Apénas llegó al puerto el baxel Fenicio, los Cretenses diéron á Telémaco, y Mentor todas las muestras de un afecto sincero. Corrieron al instante á dar noticia al Rey del arribo del hijo de Ulises. ¿ El hijo de Ulises? gritó Idomenéo. ¿ El hijo de Ulises? ¿ De aquel caro amigo, aquel héroe, por cuya virtud finalmente abatimos á la orgullosa Troya? Traédmele, para que yo le muestre quan grande es el amor que he tenido á su padre.

Idomeneus received him with a smile of tender complacency ; « I believe, » said he , « I should have known you , if I had not been told your name. I perceive your father's fire and firmness in your eye : the same coldness and reserve in your first address , which , in him , concealed so much vivacity, and such various grace. You have his smile of conscious penetration ; his easy negligence ; and his sweet , simple and insinuating elocution , which takes the soul captive , before it can prepare for defence. You are , indeed , the son of Ulysses ! from this hour you shall also be mine. — Tell me , then , » says he , « what adventure has brought you to this coast ? Are you in search of your father ? Alas ! of your father , I can give you no intelligence. Fortune has equally persecuted both him and me : he has never been able to return to his country ; and I became the victim of divine displeasure in mine. »

While Idomeneus was thus speaking to Telemachus , he fixed his eyes attentively upon Mentor , as a man whose countenance was not wholly unknown to him , though he could not recollect his name.

In the mean time the eyes of Telemachus were filled with tears : « Forgive, » said he , « O king ! the grief that I cannot hide I ought now , indeed , to betray no passion , but joy at your presence , and gratitude for your bounty ; yet , by the regret you express for the loss of Ulysses , you impress me with a new sense of my misfortune in the loss of a father ! I have already long sought him through all the regions of the deep. Such is the displeasure of the gods , that they neither permit me to find him , nor to learn whether the sea has not closed over him for ever ; nor yet to return to Ithaca , where Penelope pines with an anxious desire to be delivered from her lovers. † hoped to have found you in Crete , where I only heard the story of your misfortunes ; and I had then no thought of approaching the coast of Hesperia , where you have founded another kingdom. But fortune , who sports with mankind , and keeps me wandering through every country

Luego Telémaco se puso en su presencia, y él con rostro risueño, y apacible le dixo: Aun quando no me hubieran dicho quien sois, me persuado os hubiera conocido. Puntualmente me pareceis á Ulises mismo: esos son sus ojos llenos de fuego, cuyo mirar no es ménos reposado; y ese es el ayre de su semblante, que era á primera vista tan detenido y tan circunspecto, pero ocultaba tanta vivacidad y tan grande gracia. Reconozco tambien aquel sonreír con cautela, el porte descuidado, las palabras suaves y sencillas, que se insinuaban en los corazones, y persuadian sin dexar tiempo á dudar de su fé. Si, vos sois el hijo de Ulises; pero seréis tambien juntamente mio. O hijo mio, hijo querido mio. ¿Qué ventura os conduce a esta ribera? ¿Venís acaso en busca de vuestro padre? ¡Ay, que no os puedo dar noticia alguna! Ha perseguido la fortuna á entrambos: él ha tenido la desventura de no haber podido encontrar su patria, y yo he tenido la de hallar la mia, mas llena contra mí de la colera de los dioses.

Diciendo Idomenéo estas palabras, miraba fixamente á Mentor como á un hombre, cuyo semblante habia conocido algun tiempo, pero no podia acordarse de quien era.

Entre tanto Telémaco, con las lágrimas en los ojos, le respondió: Perdonadme, ó Rey, mi dolor, que no puedo ocultar en un tiempo, en que no habia de mostrar sino recocijo y agradecimiento, por las honras que nos haceis. Con el sentimiento que vos mostrais de la pérdida de mi padre, me enseñais a entender la desventura de no encontrarle yo. Ya ha largo tiempo que lo voy buscando en todos los mares; pero indignados los dioses no me permiten verlo, ni saber si es que ha naufragado, ni restituirme á Itaca, donde Penélope se martiriza con la ansia de verse libre de sus amantes. Creí hallaros en la isla de Creta: supe vuestra cruel desgracia: no pensé acercarme jamas á Hesperia, donde habeis arrojado los fundamentos de un otro Reyno. Pero la fortuna, que burla á los hombres, y que me hace vagar el mundo, distante de Itaca, me ha finalmente echado sobre esta playa. Entre todos los otros males que me ha causado, este es el

that is distant from my own, has at length thrown me upon your coast; a misfortune which I regret less than any other, since, though I am driven from Ithaca, I am at least brought to Idomeneus, the most generous of men. »

Idomeneus, having embraced Telemachus with great tenderness, conducted him to his palace, where he inquired what venerable old man it was that accompanied him; « I think, » said he, « that I have somewhere seen him before. » « That is Mentor, » replied Telemachus, « the friend of Ulysses, to whose care he confided my infancy, and to whom my obligations are more than I can express. »

Idomeneus immediately advanced towards Mentor; and gave him his hand. « We have seen each other before, » said he; « do you remember the voyage that you made to Crete, and the good counsel that you gave me there? I was then carried away by the impetuosity of youth, and the love of deceitful pleasure. It was necessary, that what I refused to learn from wisdom, I should be taught by adversity: would to heaven that I had confided in your counsel! But I am astonished to see that so many years have made so little alteration in your appearance; there is the same freshness in your countenance, your stature is still erect, and your vigour is undiminished: I see no difference, except that there are a few more grey hairs upon your head. »

« If I was inclined to flatter, » replied Mentor, « I would say, that you also preserve the same bloom of youth, which glowed upon your countenance before the siege of Troy; but I had rather deny myself the pleasure of gratifying you, than offend against truth. I perceive, indeed, by the wisdom of your discourse, that, from flattery, you could receive no gratification: and; that he who speaks to Idomeneus risks nothing by his sincerity. You are, indeed, much changed; so much, that I should scarce have known you; but I am not ignorant of the cause; the hand of misfortune has been upon you; you are, however, a gainer, even by your sufferings; for they have taught you wisdom; and the wrinkles, that time impresses upon the face,

que padezco con mayor gusto, porque si me echa lejos de mi patria, me dexa por lo ménos conocer al mas sabio, y mas generoso Rey.

A estas palabras abrazó Idomenéo tiernamente á Telémaco, y conduciéndole á su palacio, le dixo: ¿Quién es ese prudente viejo que os acompaña? Parece-me que lo he visto otras veces. Mentor, respondió Telémaco, Mentor amigo de Ulises, á cuya fe él encargó el cuidado de mi tutela. No se puede explicar quanto le soy deudor.

Al punto Idomenéo partió á él, y le alargó la mano, diciendo: nosotros nos hemos visto en otras ocasiones. ¿Os acordais del viage que hicisteis á Creta, y de los buenos consejos que me disteis? Pero en aquella edad dexábame yo arrebatado del ímpetu de la juventud, y del deseo de los deleites vanos y engañosos. Fué preciso que me enseñaran los infortunios, lo que no queria creer. ¿Pluguiera á los dioses que os hubiera creído yo, sabio anciano! Mas reparo con maravilla, que no os habeis mudado, despues de tantos años: esta es la misma frescura de rostro, la misma rectitud de estatura, la misma robustez, y solamente se os han encanecido algun poco los cabellos.

Gran Rey, respondió Mentor, si fuera yo lisonjero, os diria igualmente, que conservais tambien aquella flor de vuestra juventud, que os resplandecia en el rostro ántes del asedio de Troya; pero ántes os quisiera disgustar, que ofender la verdad. Por lo demás, entiendo de vuestro sabio discurso, que no amais la lisonja, y que no hay riesgo alguno en hablaros sinceramente. Vos estais muy mudado, y hubiera yo tenido gran trabajo en reconocerlos. Conozco ciertamente la ocasion de esto, y es, porque habeis padecido mucho en vuestras desgracias. Habeis sin embargo ganado harto en el padecer, porque habeis adquirido prudencia. Debese fácilmente el hombre consolar de

ought not much to be regretted, if, in the mean while, he is planting, virtue in the breast. Besides, it should be considered, that kings must wear out faster than other men : in adversity, the solicitude of the mind, and the fatigues of the body, bring on the infirmities of age before they are old ; and, in prosperity, the indulgencies of a voluptuous life, wear them out still more than corporal labour or intellectual sufferance. Nothing is so fatal to health as immoderate pleasure : and, therefore, kings, both in peace and war, have pains and pleasures which precipitate old age. A sober, temperate, and simple life, free from the inquietudes both of accident and passion, divided in due proportions between labour and rest, continues long to the wise the blessings of youth · which, if these precautions do not retain them, are ever ready to fly away upon the wings of time. »

Idomeneus, who listened with delight to the wisdom of Mentor, would longer have indulged himself in so noble a pleasure, if he had not been reminded of a sacrifice which he was to offer to Jupiter. Telemachus and Mentor followed him to the temple, surrounded by a crowd of people, who gazed at the two strangers with great eagerness and curiosity. « These men, » said they, « are very differend from each other. The younger has something sprightly and amiable, that is hard to be defined : all the graces of youth and beauty are diffused over his whole person ; yet he has nothing effeminately soft ; though the bloom of youth is scarcely ripened into manhood, he appears vigorous, robust, and inured to labour. The other, though much older, has suffered no injury from time : at the first view, his general appearance is less noble, and his countenance less gracious ; but, upon a closer examination, we find, under this unassuming, simplicity, strong indications both of wisdom and of virtue ; with a kind of nameless superiority, that excites at once both reverence and admiration. When the gods descended upon the earth, they doubtless assumed the form of such strangers and travellers as these. »

qué se arrugue el rostro , mientras que el corazón se ejercita y esfuerza en la virtud. Sabed también , que mas presto se consumen los Reyes que los demás hombres. Las adversidades , los alanes del ánimo , y las fatigas del cuerpo los envejecen antes de tiempo ; y en la prosperidad las delicias de una vida afeminada le consumen aun mas apriesa que todas las fatigas , que suelen padecerse en la guerra. No hay cosa tan mal sana como el deleite , en que no puede el hombre moderarse á sí propio. De ahí es que igualmente los Reyes en la paz y en la guerra , tienen siempre aflicciones , porque se engendran de los placeres , que apresuran la vejez á la edad en que debe venir naturalmente. Una vida templada y moderada , llana y exenta de inquietudes , y un sufrimiento reglado , y mortificado con el trabajo , mantienen en los miembros de un hombre sabio la vivacidad de la juventud , que sin esas cautelas , siempre está prevenida para ausentarse lejos de nosotros en las alas del tiempo.

Habiendo Idomenéo tenido gran recreo del razonamiento del discreto Mentor , lo hubiera largamente escuchado , á no venir los suyos á avisarle que era del sacrificio , que se habia de hacer á Júpiter. Telémaco y Mentor le siguiéron , ceñidos de una gran multitud de gente , que miraba á los extrangeros con curiosidad y atención. Estos hombres , se decian unos á otros , son muy diferentes entre sí. El jóven tiene no sé qué viveza y amabilidad ; y en su rostro y cuerpo lleva esparcidas todas las gracias de la belleza y de la juventud ; pero su belleza no tiene cosa delicada ó afeminada , y con aquella mocedad tan tierna , parece vigoroso , robusto , y hecho á tolerar el trabajo. Pero el otro , aunque mucho mayor de edad , no ha perdido aun nada de su vigor. Su presencia al primer aspecto parece ménos noble , y ménos gracioso su rostro : mas quien lo mira de cerca , encuentra en su llaneza ciertas señas de discrecion y virtud , con tal nobleza , que maravilla mucho. Cierta , que quando los dioses descenden á la tierra , para comunicarse á los hombres , toman trages extraños de pasajeros y otros semejantes.

In the mean time, they arrived at the temple of Jupiter, which Idomeneus, who was descended from the god, had adorned with the utmost magnificence. It was surrounded with a double range of columns of variegated marble; the capitals of which were of silver. The whole building was cased with marble, enriched with bas relief; the carving represented the transformation of Jupiter into a bull, and his rape of Europa, whom he bore into Crete through the waves, which seemed to reverence the god, though he was concealed under a borrowed form; and the birth of Minos, the events of his youth, and the dispensation of those laws in his more advanced age, which were calculated to perpetuate the prosperity of his country. Telemachus observed also representations of the principal events in the siege of Troy, at which Idomeneus acquired great military reputation: among these representations, Telemachus looked for his father; and he found him seizing the horses of Rhesus, whom Diomedes had just slain; disputing the armour of Achilles with Ajax, before the princes of Greece; and descending from the fatal horse, to deluge Troy with the blood of her inhabitants.

By these achievements Telemachus distinguished his father; for he had frequently heard them mentioned, and they had been particularly described to him by Mentor. His mind kindled as he considered them; the tears swelled in his eyes, he changed colour, and his countenance was troubled: he turned away his face to conceal his confusion, which, however, was perceived by the king: « Do not be ashamed, » said Idomeneus, « that we should see how sensibly you are touched with the glory and misfortunes of your father. »

The people were now gathered, in a throng, under the vast porticos, which were formed by the double range of columns that surrounded the building. There were two companies of boys and virgins, who sung hymns to the praise of the god, in whose hand are the thunders of the sky: they were selected for their

Llegaron

Llegáron entre tanto al templo de Júpiter, que Idomenéo descendiente del dios habia adornado con gran magnificencia. Estaba el Templo ceñido de dos órdenes de columnas de pórfido, cuyos chapiteles eran de plata, todo cubierto de mármol, y en él algunas figuras trabajadas á escorzo, que representaban á Jupiter disfrazado en toro: el rapto de la bella doncella Europa, y su transito á Creta por en medio del mar. Parecíase que las hondas respetaban á Júpiter, si bien estaba baxo de extraña forma. Veíase despues el nacimiento y juventud de Minos, y al cabo se veia el sabio Rey de mas madura edad, y en ademán de dar leyes á toda la isla, para ponerla en estado, en que su felicidad, y su gloria pudieran florecer perpetuamente. Notó tambien Telémaco los principales sucesos del asedio de Troya, en que adquirió Idomenéo reputacion de grande capitán. Entre aquellas expresiones de choques buscó cuidadoso á su padre, y lo reconoció en el amago de tomar los caballos de Reso, que en aquel mismo punto habia sido muerto de Diómedes; despues en accion de disputar con Ajax, sobre las armas de Aquiles, delante de todos los capitanes del ejército de los Griegos, que se habian juntado; y finalmente en acto de saltar del fatal caballo á derramar la sangre de un número tan grande de Troyanos.

Reconocióle al punto Telémaco por aquellas proezas inmortales, de que habia oido hablar muchas veces, y le habia contado Mentor lo mismo. Cayéronle las lágrimas de los ojos, trocó color, mostró mudado el rostro; y bien lo advirtió Idomenéo, aunque él, para ocultar su turbacion, se procuró apartar. No tengais vergüenza, le dixo Idomenéo, de dexar ver en vos cuánto os han movido á ternura la gloria y las desgracias de vuestro padre.

En tanto el pueblo se iba juntando á tropas baxo de aquellos dilatados pórticos, formados de dos órdenes de columnas, que cercaban el templo. Habia allí dos tropas de jovencillos de entrambos sexos, que cantaban hymnos á Júpiter. Tenian ellos con el mas agradable aspecto tendidos los cabellos, que andaban

beauty, and had long hair, which flowed in loose curls over their shoulders; they were clothed in white, and their heads were crowned with roses, and sprinkled with perfume. Idomeneus sacrificed an hundred bulls to Jupiter, to obtain success in a war which he had undertaken against the neighbouring states: the blood of the victims smoked on every side, and was received into large vases of silver and gold.

Theophanes, the priest of the temple, venerable for his age, and beloved of the god, having kept his head covered during the ceremony, with the skirt of his purple robe, proceeded to examine the still panting entrails of the victims: he then mounted the sacred tripod, and cried out. « Who, ye gods! are these strangers, that ye have brought amongst us? without them the war which we have undertaken would have been fatal; and Salentum would have fallen into ruin, while it was yet rising from its foundations. I see a hero in the bloom of youth; I see him conducted by the hand of wisdom! To mortal lips thus much only is permitted. »

While he spoke, his looks became wild, and his eyes fiery; he seemed to see other objects than those that were before him; his countenance was inflamed, his hair stood up, his mouth foamed, his arms, which were stretched upwards, remained immoveable, and all his faculties seemed to be under a supernatural influence: his voice was more than human; he gasped for breath, and was agonized by the divine spirit that moved within him. He soon burst into a new exclamation:

« O happy Idomeneus! what do I see! tremendous evils! but they are averted. Within there is peace; but without there is battle! There is victory! O Telemachus! thy achievements surpass those of thy father! Under thy falchion, pride and hostility grovel in the dust together; and grates of brass, and inaccessible ramparts, fall in one ruin at thy feet! O mighty goddess! let his father — Illustrious youth! thou shalt again behold——. »

vagarosos sobre la espalda, coronadas de flores las cabezas y llenas de perfumes, y estaban todos con vestiduras blancas. Hacia Idomenéo al dios Júpiter un sacrificio de cien toros, para que le fuera propicio en la guerra, que contra sus vecinos habia comenzado. Humeaba en todas partes la sangre de las víctimas, y se veia herbir dentro de grandes copas de oro y plata.

El anciano Teofanes, amigo de los dioses y sacerdote del Templo tenia, en tanto que duraba el sacrificio, cubierta la cabeza con la extremidad de su vestidura de púrpura: examinó despues con atencion las entrañas de las víctimas, que palpitaban aun. Despues, poniéndose sobre el sagrado trípode: O dioses, exclamó, ¿quiénes son estos, dos extrangeros, que nos ha enviado el cielo? sin ellos la guerra nos seria funesta; y se arruinaria Salento ántes de levantarse sobre sus fundamentos. Yo veo á un héroe jóven conducido por mano de la sabiduria; pero no es permitido á una lengua mortal pasar mas adelante.

Diciendo estas palabras, su mirar era fiero, le centelleaban los ojos, y parecia que veía otros objetos que los que tenia delante. Estaba inflamado su rostro, y él turbado y fuera de sí propio: tenia los cabellos erizados, espumeando la boca, levantados, é inmóviles los brazos, alterada la voz, y mas que humana, y ya le faltaba el aliento, no pudiendo abarcar dentro del pecho al espíritu divino que le agitaba.

¡ O feliz Idomenéo ! gritó segunda vez: ¿ qué veo ?
¡ O qué infortunios grandes evitados ! ¡ O qué dulce paz aquí dentro ! Mas cuán duros combates de fuera !
¡ O qué victorias ! Tus fatigas, Telémaco, sobrepujan á las del grande Ulises tu padre. Gime en el polvo el enemigo fiero baxo de las heridas de tu espada, y caen á tus pies las cerraduras de bronce; y los inaccesibles terraplenes. ¡ O gran diosa ! cuyo padre :: :: : ¡ O jóven ! tú verás finalmente :: :: ::

Here the words died upon his tongue, and his powers were involuntarily suspended in silence and astonishment.

The multitude was chilled with horror; Idomeneus trembled, and did not dare to urge Theophanes to proceed; Telemachus himself scarcely comprehended what he had heard, and almost doubted, whether predictions so sublime and important had really been delivered. Mentor was the only person, in that vast assembly, whom the effusions of the divinity had not astonished: « You hear, » said he, to Idomeneus, « the purposes of the gods; against whatever nation you shall turn your arms, your victory is secure; but it is to this youth, the son of your friend, that you will owe your success; be not jealous of his honour; but receive with gratitude, what the gods shall give you by his hand. »

Idomeneus endeavoured to reply; but not being yet recovered from his surprise, he could find no words, and therefore remained silent. Telemachus was more master of himself: « The promise of so much glory, » said he to Mentor, « does not much affect me; I desire only to know the meaning of those last words, « Thou shalt again behold: » Is it my father, or my country only, that I shall behold again? Why, alas! was the sentence left unfinished? why was it so broken, as rather to increase than diminish my uncertainty? O Ulysses! O my father! is it thy very self that I shall again behold? is it possible! Alas! my wishes deceive me into hope; this cruel oracle has only sported with my misfortunes; one word more would have made me completely happy! »

« Reverence what the gods have revealed, » said Mentor; « and do not seek to discover what they have hidden: it is fit that presumptuous curiosity should be covered with confusion. The gods, in the abundance of their wisdom and mercy, have concealed the future, from the sight of man, in impenetrable darkness. It is proper, indeed, that we should know the event of what depends wholly upon ourselves, as a

Después de estas razones, fenecen las palabras entre sus labios, y queda á su pesar en un silencio lleno de asombro.

Todo el pueblo queda tambien erizado de miedo: Idomenéo medroso, no se atreve á rogarle, que acabe el discurso empezado; y espantado con estupor el mismo Telémaco, apenas comprehende lo que ha oido, ni puede reducirse á creer, que ha oido tan sublimes predicciones. Mentor es solo á quien el espíritu divino no ha ocasionado espanto ni maravilla! Vos ois, dixo á Idomenéo, la intencion de los dioses, contra qualquier nacion que hayais de combatir, teneis la victoria en la mano, y deberéis vuestra dichá al jóven hijo de vuestro amigo. No esteis de esto con zelos; y aprovechaos solamente de las gracias, que os otorgan los dioses por su medio.

No habiéndose aun recobrado de su asombro, en vano procuraba hablar Idomenéo, porque estaba su lengua sin movimiento. Telémaco, mas pronto que él, le respondió á Mentor: yo no me siento nada movido de tanta gloria, como se me promete; mas qué significaran estas voces: ¿Tú verás; por ventura á mi padre, ó solamente mi Patria? ¡Ay! ¿Por qué ha truncado el discurso sin fenecerlo? Mayor incertidumbre me ha dexado que ántes. O Ulises, ó mi padre. ¿He de tener acaso la ventura de veros otra vez? ¿Seria esto verdad? Mas yo me voy deslumbrando á mí mismo, ; ó cruel oráculo! y tú entre tanto gustas de hacer burla de un miserable. Bastaba una sola palabra mas, y yo era enteramente dichoso.

Respetad, le dixo Mentor, lo que os manifiestan los dioses, y no intenteis saber lo que quieren que se os oculte. Una curiosidad temeraria merece ser castigada con confusion. Su infinita sabiduría, y bondad son las que mueven á los dioses á ocultar á los hombres su destino con una obscuridad impenetrable. Util es preveer lo que depende de nosotros, para hacerlo bien; pero no es ménos útil el ignorar lo que no de-

motive to rectitude of conduct ; but it is equally fit , that we should be ignorant of those events over which we have no influence , and of what the gods have determined to be our lot. »

Telemachus felt the force of this reply , yet he could not restrain himself without difficulty.

In the mean time , Idomeneus having perfectly recovered the possession of his mind , began to express his gratitude to Jupiter , for having sent Telemachus and Mentor to give him victory over his enemies. A magnificent entertainment was given after the sacrifice , and he then addressed the strangers to this effect :

« I confess , that when I returned from the siege of Troy to Crete , I was not sufficiently acquainted with the arts of government. You are not ignorant , my dear friends , of the misfortunes which excluded me from the sovereignty of that extensive island ; for you tell me that you have been there since I quitted it : misfortunes , which I shall think more than atoned , if they teach me wisdom , and repress my passions ! I traversed the seas , like a fugitive , pursued by the vengeance both of heaven and earth ; the elevation of my former state , served but to aggravate my fall ; and I sought an asylum for my household gods upon this desert coast , which I found covered with thorns and brambles , with impenetrable forest , as ancient as the earth upon which they grew , and abounding with almost inaccessible rocks , in which the wild beast that prowled by night , took shelter in the day. Such was my necessity , that I was glad to take possession of this desolate wilderness , with a small number of soldiers and friends , who kindly became the companions of my misfortunes , and to consider these deserts as my country : having no hope of returning to that happy island , in which it was the will of the gods that I should be born to reign. I felt the change with the keenest sensibility. What a dreadful example , said I , is Idomeneus to other kings ! and what instruction may they derive from his suffering ! They imagine , that their elevation above the rest of men , is a security from misfortune : but , alas ! their very superiority is their danger. I was dreaded by my enemies , and beloved by my

pende de nuestra diligencia , y lo que quieren los dioses disponer de nosotros.

Movido de estas voces Telémaco , se contuvo con harta pena.

Idoménéo , que ya se habia rehecho de su asombro , comenzó de su parte á alabar á Júpiter , que le habia enviado al jóven Telémaco , y al sabio Mentor , para hacerle triunfar de sus contrarios. Despues se hizo un suntuoso convite , que sucedió al sacrificio ; y vuelto á los extrangeros , les dixo.

Confieso , que no conocia yo aun bien el arte de reynar quando volvia á Creta , despues del asedio de Troya. Sabeis , amigos caros , las desgracias que me quitáron el dominio de aquella grande isla , puesto que me decís haber estado en ella despues que yo la dexé. Pero soy con todo demasiado feliz , si los mas crueles golpes de la fortuna hau servido á enseñarme , y hacerme mas moderado. Atravesé los mares como fugitivo , perseguido de la venganza de los dioses y de los hombres ; y no me servia para otro toda mi pasada grandeza , que para hacerme mas vergonzosa , y mas intolerable mi caída. Llegué á poner en salvo mis Penates sobre esta playa inculta , en donde no encontré sino el erizado terreno , cubierto de zarzas y espinas : selvas , que en lo prolixo de su edad competian la de la tierra , y casi inaccesibles peñascos , de que se abrigan las fieras. Fui obligado á alegrarme de poseer con un pequeño número de soldados y compañeros , que se habian dignado de seguirme en mis desventuras , esta tierra desaliñada , y de hacerla mi patria , no pudiendo esperar ya mas restituirme á aquella isla afortunada , donde me hizo el cielo nacer para reynar. ¡ Ay de mí , decia entre mí mismo , qué trueque ! ¡ O qué terrible exemplo soy yo á todos los Reyes de la tierra ! Convendria mostrarme á todos los que reynan en el mundo , para que mi escarmiento les enseñara. Creen no tener cosa que temer , porque estan elevados sobre los demas hombres , y su elevacion misma es la que hace que deban temerlo todo. Yo era temido de mis contrarios , amado de mis súbditos , mandaba á

subjects ; I commanded a powerful and warlike nation ; fame had acquainted the remotest regions with my glory ; I was the lord of a fertile and delightful country ; I received tribute from the wealth of an hundred cities ; I was acknowledged to be descended from Jupiter , who was born in the country that I governed ; I was beloved as the grandson of Minos , whose laws at once rendered them powerful and happy ; and what was wanting to my felicity , but the knowledge how to enjoy it with moderation ! My pride , and the adulation which gratified it , subverted my throne , and I fell , as every king must fall who delivers himself up to his own passions , and to the counsels of flattery .

When I came hither , I laboured to conceal my anguish by a look of cheerfulness and hope , that I might support the courage of my companions : Let us build a new city , said I , to console us for what we have lost . We are surrounded with people who have set us a fair example for the undertaking : we see Tarentum rising near us , a city founded by Phalanthus and his Lacedemonians , Philoctetes is building Petilia on the same coast , and Metapontum is another colony of the like kind . Shall we do less than these strangers have done ; who are wanderers as well as we , and to whom fortune has not been less severe ?

But I wanted the comfort which I sought to bestow ; and concealed , in my own bosom , that anguish which I soothed in others ; of this I hoped no other alleviation , than to be released from the constraint of hiding it , and anticipated the close of day with comfort , when , surrounded by the shades of night , I might indulge my sorrows without a witness . My eyes were then drowned in tears , and sleep was a stranger to my bed : yet , the next morning , I renewed my labour with equal ardour and perseverance ; and these are the causes that I am old before my time . »

Idomeneus then requested the assistance of Telemachus and Mentor , in the war that he had undertaken : « I will send you to Ithaca , » said he , « as soon

una nacion poderosa y guerrera : habia la fama conducido mi nombre á los mas distantes paises : yo reynaba en una isla fertil y deliciosa : dabanme cien ciudades cada año parte de sus riquezas en tributo : conocianme aquellos pueblos por Rey , porque era descendiente de Júpiter , que nació en su pais , y me amaban por nieto del sabio Minos : cuyas leyes les hacen tan poderosos y tan felices. ¿ Qué cosa me faltaba para mi suerte , sino saber gozar de ella moderadamente ? Pero la soberbia y lisonja á que dí oídos , abatiéron mi trono. De esta suerte caerán todos los Reyes , que se dexaren gobernar de sus pasiones propias , y los consejos de los aduladores.

Miéntas era de dia , procuraba mostrar un rostro alegre y lleno de esperanza , para mantener el esfuerzo de los que me habian seguido. Hagámos , les decia , una nueva ciudad , que nos consuele de todo lo que habemos perdido : hallámonos ceñidos de pueblos , que nos han dado un grande exemplo para esta empresa. Veamos la ciudad de Taranto , que se está levantando no léjos de nosotros : Falanto con sus Lacedemonios ha fundado ese nuevo Reyno. Filotetes da el nombre de Petilia á una grande ciudad , que ha fabricado sobre la misma costa. Metaponto es tambien otra semejante colonia. ¿ Hemos de hacer por ventura ménos , que todos esos extrangeros , tan errantes como nosotros ? No nos trata con mas rigor el hado , que el que ha usado con ellos.

Ingeniándome á suavizar con estas palabras la pena de mis compañeros , escondia en mi corazon una afliccion mortal. Era para mí de consuelo , que se me retirara la luz del dia , y viniera la noche á ceñirme de sus tinieblas , para poder gemir libremente mi desventura. Corrian de mis ojos dos arroyos de amargas lágrimas , y me habia dexado de manera el apacible sueño , que ignoraba qué cosa era dormir. El dia , que venia despues volvia con nuevo fervor á proseguir la labor comenzada. He aquí , Mentor , la causa porque me habeis hallado tan envejecido.

Luego que acabó Idomenéo de contar sus penas , pidió á Telémaco y Mentor socorro para la guerra en que estaba empeñado. Os remitiré á Itaca , les decia ,

as it shall be over ; and , in the mean time , I will dispatch ships to every country in quest of Ulysses , and from whatever part of the known world , on which he shall have been cast by a tempest , or by the resentment of some adverse deity , he shall be brought in safety : may the gods grant that he be still alive ! As for you , I will embark you in the best vessels that ever were built in the island of Crete ! vessels that are constructed of trees which grew upon Mount Ida , the birth place of Jupiter : that sacred wood can never perish in the deep ; it is revered equally by the rocks and winds ; and Neptune himself , in the utmost fury of his wrath , does not dare to swell the waves against it. Be assured , therefore , that you shall return to Ithaca in safety ; and that no adverse deity shall again drive you to another coast : the voyage is short , and easy ; dismiss , therefore , the Phœnician vessel that has brought you hither , and think only of the glory you will acquire by establishing the new kingdom of Idomeneus , to atone for his sufferings that are past. This , O son of Ulysses ! shall prove that thou art worthy thy father ; and if the inexorable Fates have already compelled him to descend into the bloomy dominions of Pluto , Greece shall think with pleasure , that she still sees her Ulysses in thee. »

Here Idomeneus was interrupted by Telemachus ; « Let us send away the Phœnician vessel , » said he ; « why should we delay to take arms against your enemies , since your enemies must also be ours ? If we have been victorious in the behalf of Acestes , a Trojan , and consequently an enemy to Greece , should we not exert ourselves with more ardour , and shall we not be more favoured by the gods , in the cause of a Grecian prince , a confederate of those heroes by whom the perfidious city of Priam was overturned ? Surely , the oracle that we have just heard , has made doubt impossible. »

END OF THE NINTH BOOK.

luego que ella se acabe. Despacharé entre tanto á todas las riveras mas apartadas algunas de mis Naves, para adquirir alguna noticia de Ulises. Sabré bien sacarlo de qualquiera parte del mundo conocido, donde lo haya arrojado el mar, ó la colera de los dioses. Plegue á ellos, que viva aun. Por lo que mira á vosotros, os aviaré con los mejores baxeles, que se hayan fabricado jamas en Creta, porque se han construido de madera, cortada en el monte Ida, donde nació Júpiter. Esta madera no puede perecer en el mar: témenla los escollos, y los vientos, y aun la respetan; y el mismo dios Neptuno, en lo mas temeroso de sus enojos, no osará conmover contra ella sus tempestades. Aseguraos pues, que sin dificultad alguna volveréis felizmente á Itaca, y que ninguna deidad contraria podrá hacer que mas tiempo corrais vagueando los mares. El trecho es corto y facil: licenciad el baxel Fenicio, que os ha traído aca, y no penseis en otro, que establecer, adquiriéndoo gloria, el nuevo Reyno de Idomenéo, para reparar así todas sus desgracias pasadas. A este precio, Telémaco, conquistaréis la estima de los otros, y os juzgaran por hijo digno de Ulises. Aun quando el cruel destino lo hubiera hecho morir, toda la Grecia creará volverlo á ver en vos.

A estas palabras interrumpió Telémaco á Idomenéo diciendo: Licenciarnos el baxel Fenicio: ¿por qué tardamos en tomar las armas para acometer los contrarios de vuestro estado? Ya son ellos nuestros enemigos propios. Si hemos vencido peleando en la Sicilia á favor de Acestes, Troyano, y enemigo de los Griegos; ¿hay por ventura duda, que nos aplicaremos con mas fervor, y que seremos mas asistidos del favor de los dioses, quando combatimos por uno de los héroes de Grecia, que han abatido á Troya, ciudad de Priamo?

FIN DEL LIBRO NONO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK X.

ARGUMENT.

Idomeneus acquaints Mentor with the cause of the war; he tells him that the Mandurians ceded to him the coast of Hesperia, where he had founded his new city as soon as he arrived; that they withdrew to the neighbouring mountains, where having been ill-treated by some of his people, they had sent deputies with whom he had settled articles of peace; and that after a breach of that treaty, on the part of Idomeneus, by some hunters who knew nothing of it, the Mandurians prepared to attack him. During this recital, the Mandurians, having already taken arms, appear at the gates of Salentum. Nestor, Philoctetes, and Phalanthus, whom Idomeneus supposed to be nenter, appear to have joined them with their forces. Mentor goes out of Salentum alone, and proposes new conditions of peace.

MENTOR turned to Telemachus, who, while he was speaking, felt an heroic ardour kindle in his bosom, with a look of calm complacency: I see with pleasure, » said he, « O son of Ulysses! the desire of glory that now sparkles in your eyes; but you must remember, that your father acquired his pre-eminence among the confederate princes at the siege of Troy, by his superior wisdom and dispassionate counsels. Achilles, though he was invincible and invulnerable, though he was sure to spread terror and destruction wherever he fought, could never take the city of Troy, which, when he expired under her walls, stood yet unshaken, and triumphed over the conqueror of Hector: but Ulysses, whose valour was under the direction of consummate prudence, carried fire and sword to its centre; and it is to Ulysses that we owe the fall of those lofty towers, which threatened confederate Greece more than ten years with destruction. A circumspect and sagacious valour is as much superior to a thought-

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO X.

SUMARIO.

Idomeneo declara á Mentor el estado presente de su Reyno, y la guerra en que se halla empeñado contra sus vecinos. Mentor insinuando á Idomeneo lo que debe poner en obra para evitarla, le dice que es injusta, y no debe proseguirla. En este tiempo avisan á Idomeneo, que llegan los enemigos para sorprender la ciudad. Sale solo Mentor de Salento con un ramo de olivo en la mano. Exhorta á los capitanes contrarios todos juntos, para que hagan la paz. Conócelo Nestor, y dexando su puesto pasa á tratar con él.

MENTOR, mirando á Telémaco con ojos apacibles y serenos, que estaba lleno de una osadía noble, é impaciente ya por pelear, empezó á hablar así: Alégrese, hijo de Ulises, de ver en vos un tal deseo de gloria; pero acordaos que Ulises en el sitio de Troya no adquirió entre los Griegos reputacion tan grande, sino manifestándose entre ellos el mas moderado y prudente. Aquiles, aunque invicto é invulnerable, y aunque llevaba el terror y la muerte, por qualquiera lugar en que peleaba, tentó en vano la conquista de aquel Imperio, y no pudo llegar á expugnarlo. Cayó él mismo á los pies del muro de la ciudad, y ella triunfó del matador de Hector. Pero Ulises, en quien la prudencia regulaba al valor, metió el hierro, y el fuego por en medio de los Troyanos nuestros enemigos. A sus manos somos deudores de la ruina de aquellas altas y soberbias torres, las quales por diez años amenazaron a toda Grecia, conjurada para su daño. Quanto Minerva es superior á Marte, otro tanto el va-

less and impetuous courage, as Minerva is to Mars : let us, therefore, before we engage in this war, inquire upon what grounds it is undertaken. I am willing to incur any danger ; but it is fit I should first learn from Idomeneus, whether his war is just against whom it is waged, and on what forces he builds his hopes of success. »

« When we arrived at this coast, » replied Idomeneus, « we found it inhabited by a savage people, who lived wild in the forest, subsisting upon such animals as they could kill by hunting, and such fruits and herbage as the seasons produced without culture. These people, who were called Mandurians, being terrified at the sight of our vessels and our arms, fled to the mountains, but as our soldiers were curious to see the country, and were frequently led far into it in pursuit of their game, they met with some of the fugitives, and were addressed by their chiefs to this effect : « We have abandoned the pleasant borders of the sea, that you might possess them ; and nothing remains for us, but mountains that are almost inaccessible : it is therefore but equitable, that, of these mountains you should leave us the peaceable possession. You are fallen into our hands, a wandering, dispersed, and defenceless party ; and we could now destroy you, without leaving, to your companions, a possibility of discovering your fate : but we will not dip our hands in the blood of those, who, though strangers, partake of one common nature with ourselves. Go then in peace ! Remember, that you are indebted for your lives to our humanity ; and that a people, whom you have stigmatized with the name of savages and barbarians, have given you this lesson of moderation and generosity. »

« Our people, thus dismissed by the barbarians, came back to the camp, and told what had happened. The soldiers took fire at the relation ; they disdained that Cretans should owe their lives to a company of wandering savages, who, in their opinion, were more like bears than men. They went out, therefore, to the chase in greater numbers and better armed ; they soon

lor discreto, y pródigo sobrepuja á un esfuerzo impetuoso y feroz. Demos principio pues por el informe de esta guerra, qué habemos de sostener. Yo no rehusó entrar á qualquier riesgo; mas creo que debeis, Idomenéo, darnos primeramente á conocer si vuestra guerra es justa, despues contra quién la llevais, y finalmente, qué fuerzas son las vuestras, para esperar en ella feliz suceso.

Quando llegamos, respondió Idomenéo, sobre esta costa, encontramos con una gente agreste, que vivia en las selvas, que se alimentaba de caza, y de frutos que producen los árboles, sin conocer la mano del labrador. Quedáron admirados al ver nuestros baxeles y nuestras armas, y se retiráron al monte. Mas teniendo nuestros soldados deseo de reconocer el pais, y perseguir los ciervos, se arrojáron á aquellos fugitivos. Entónces el adalid de aquellos rústicos les dixo á los soldados así: Nosotros, por dexarlas en vuestra posesion, hemos abandonado las agradables costas del mar, y no nos queda otro, que algunos montes impracticables casi á las humanas huellas: á lo ménos es justo, que en ellos nos dexéis vivir libres y en paz. Nosotros os hallamos errantes, esparcidos, y mas débiles que nosotros mismos: podriamos quitaros la vida, y aun tambien la noticia á vuestros compañeros, para que no entendieran vuestro infortunio; pero no queremos manchar las manos con la sangre de los que son hombres como nosotros somos. Andad, acordaos que debeis la vida á estos sentimientos humanos que profesamos. No os olvideis jamas de que habeis recibido esta leccion de templanza y generosidad de un pueblo á quien vosotros llamais ignorante y salvage.

Volviéron al campo los nuestros, que fuéron así licenciados de aquellos bárbaros, y refierennos el suceso que les habia acaecido. Cobráron saña nuestros soldados, y se avergonzáron de ver que debieron la vida los Cretes á aquella turba de bárbaros. Fuéronse pues á cazar con harto mayor número que los primeros, y prevenidos de todas armas, si acaso de ellas

fell in with a party of the natives, and immediately attacked them : the contest was bloody ; the arrows flew on each side, as thick as hail in a storm ; and the savages were at length driven back to their mountains, whither our people did not dare to pursue them.

« A short time afterwards, they sent two of the wisest of their old men to me, demanding peace. They brought me such presents as they had, the skins of wild beasts, and the fruits of the country. After they had given them, they addressed me in these terms :

« We hold, as thou seest, O king ! in one hand the sword, and an olive branch in the other ; peace and war ; chuse either. Peace has the preference in our estimation ; it is for peace that we have yielded, to thy people, the delightful borders of the sea, where the sun renders the earth fertile, and matures the most delicious fruits : peace is still more sweet than these fruits ; and, for peace, we have retired to the mountains that are covered with eternal snow, where spring is decorated with no flowers, and autumn is enriched with no fruit : we abhor that brutality, which, under the specious names of ambition and glory, desolates the earth, and destroys mankind. If thou hast placed glory in carnage and desolation, we do not envy but pity the delusion ; and beseech the gods, that our minds may never be perverted by so dreadful a frenzy. If the sciences, which the Greeks learn with so much assiduity, and the politeness which they boast with such a conscious superiority, inspire them with desires so sanguinary and injurious, we think ourselves happy to be without these advantages. It will be our glory to continue ignorant and unpolished, but just, humane, faithful, and disinterested ; to be content with little ; and to despise the false delicacy which makes it necessary to have much. We prize nothing but health, frugality, freedom, and vigour both of body and of mind ; we cultivate only the love of virtue, the fear of the gods, benevolence to our neighbours, zeal for our friends, and integrity to the world ; mo-

ocurría necesidad. Bien presto se encontraron , y cargaron sobre los rústicos. Fué cruel el combate , y volaban los dardos por una y otra parte , como en tiempo de una borrasca cae espeso el granizo en la campaña. Viéronse precisados los agrestes á abrigarse de sus fragosísimas montañas , donde no osaron los nuestros penetrar.

Poco tiempo despues me enviaron aquellos pueblos dos de sus viejos mas sabios , que me viniéron á pedir la paz, Trageronme algunos dones , que eran frutas de plantas del pais , y algunas pieles de fieras , de las que matan cazando: Despues de ofrecermé sus dones , me hablaron de esta forma.

Nosotros , Rey , como ves , tenemos en una mano la espada , y en la otra un ramo de olivo : (teníanlos en efecto) he aquí la paz , ó la guerra : escoge la que quieras. Querriamos primero la paz : por amor de ella no hemos tenido vergüenza de abandonarte la apacible orilla del mar , donde el sol fertiliza ese terreno , que produce frutos delicadísimos. La paz nos es mucho mas apreciable que todos esos frutos. Por ella nos habemos retirado á esas altas montañas , siempre cubiertas del erizado hielo , y de la helada nieve , donde jamas se ven las flores de la primavera , ni los sabrosos frutos del Otoño. Tenemos en horror aquella brutalidad , que baxo el bello nombre de ambicion y gloria , va neciamente á saquear las provincias , y derramar la sangre de los hombres , que son todos hermanos. Si eres amante tú de esa fingida gloria , no te la envidiarémos : compadecémoste , y rogamos á los dioses que te preserven de tal furor. Si las ciencias que los Griegos aprenden con tanta aplicacion , y si la gentileza de que se lisongan , no infunde otra cosa en su animo que esta tan detestable injusticia , nosotros nos tenemos por felicísimos , por no haber tenido sus prerogativas. Gloriarémonos siempre de ser barbaros , pero justos , humanos , fieles , desinteresados , enseñados á contentarnos con poco , y á despreciar la vana delicadeza , que hace que necesiten los hombres de poseer muchas cosas. Lo que apreciamos es la salud , la libertad , la robustez del cuerpo , y del ánimo , el amor de la virtud , el temor de los dioses , la cortesía

deration in prosperity, fortitude in distress, courage to speak truth in every situation, and a just abhorrence and contempt of flattery. Such are the people, whom we offer thee as neighbours and allies! If thou shalt be so blinded by the gods in their displeasure, as to reject them, experience shall teach thee, when it is too late, that those whose moderation inclines them to peace, are most to be dreaded, when compelled into war?

« While I listened to the untutored wisdom of these children of nature, I regarded them with a fixed attention; yet my eye was still unsatisfied. Their beards were long, just as they grew; their hair was shorter: but white as snow; their eyebrows were thick, and their eyes piercing; their look was firm, their speech deliberate and commanding, and their deportment simple and ingenuous. They were covered only with some furs, which being thrown loosely over them, were fastened with a knot on the shoulder, and discovered muscles of a bolder swell, and arms of more sinewy strength than those of our wrestlers. « I told these singular envoys, that I was desirous of peace; and settled several articles of a treaty between us, with an honest intention to fulfil them, which we called upon the gods to witness; and having made them presents in my turn, I dismissed them.

The gods, however, who had driven me from a kingdom that I was born to inherit, continued to persecute me in this. Our hunting parties that were at this time out, and were consequently ignorant of our treaty, met a numerous body of these poor savages, who had accompanied their envoys, as they were returning home on the very day that the treaty had been concluded: and falling upon them with great fury, killed many of them, and pursued the rest into the woods. The war was thus kindled; and the barbarians have conceived an opinion, that we are not to be trusted, either upon our promise or our oath.

« That they may be the better able to take the field against us, they have called in to their assistance the Locrians, the Apulians, the Lucanians, the Brutians,

con los vecinos, el intenso cariño á los amigos, la fidelidad con todos los hombres, la moderacion en la prosperidad, la constancia en las adversidades, el denuedo para decir siempre la verdad, y el odio contra la adulacion. He aquí cuáles son los pueblos, que nos ofrecemos por vecinos, y coligados. Si indignados los dioses te ciegan, hasta hacerte rehusar la paz, aprenderás, pero sobrado tarde, que los hombres, que por moderados aman la paz, son los mas formidables en la guerra.

Mientras que en esta forma discurrian los viejos, no podia saciarme de mirarlos. Tenian la barba larga y desaliñada: los cabellos cortos, pero canosos: el sobrecejo poblado, los ojos vivos, un mirar, y un brio intrépido, un hablar grave y lleno de autoridad, y modo sencillo é ingenuo. Las pieles, que les servian de vestiduras, iban anudadas sobre la espalda, y mostraban los brazos mas nervudos, los músculos mejor formados, que los de nuestros atletas. Respondí á los enviados, que yo deseaba la paz. Establecimos á una, y con buena fe muchas condiciones, tomamos por testigos á los dioses; y despaché á los viejos para los suyos, cargados de varios presentes.

Pero los dioses, que me habian echado del Reyno de mis mayores, no estaban aun cansados de perseguirme. Nuestros cazadores, que no podian tan presto ser sabedores de la paz poco ántes establecida, encontraron aquél dia mismo una multitud de bárbaros, que iban en compañía de sus enviados, quando volvian del campo; los nuestros les atacaron furiosamente, mataron parte de ellos, y persiguieron á los demas en los bosques; y he aquí encendida otra vez la guerra. Creyeron los bárbaros no poder fiarse mas, ni de promesas, ni de juramentos, que les hicieramos.

Para ser mas poderosos han llamado contra nosotros á los Locreses, Pulleses, Lucanos, Abruceses, y los pueblos de Croton, de Nevita y de Brindez.

and the people of Crotona, Neritum, and Brundisium. The Lucanians come to battle with chariots that are armed with Scythes; the Apulians are covered with the skins of the wild beasts they have slain, and are armed with maces that are covered with knots, and stuck full of iron spikes; they are of a gigantic stature; and the laborious exercises to which they are addicted, render them so brawny and robust, that their very appearance is terrifying. The Locrians, who came anciently from Greece, have not yet lost all traces of their origin: they are less savage than the rest; but they have added, to the regular discipline of the Greek troops, the native vigour of the barbarians, and the habitual hardiness produced by constant activity and coarse fare, which render them invincible: they are armed with a long sword; and, for defence, carry a light target of wicker work covered with skins. The Brutians are as light of foot as a roe, so that the grass scarcely bends under them; nor is it easy to trace their steps even upon the sand; they rush upon their enemies, almost before they are seen; and again vanish with the same rapidity. The Chrotonians are formidable for their archery; they carry such bows as few Greeks are able to bend, and if ever they should become candidates in the Olympic games, they would certainly carry the prize; their arrows are dipped in the juice of some poisonous herb, which is said to grow upon the banks of Avernus; and the wound which they give is mortal. As for the inhabitants of Neritum and Brundisium, they have nothing to boast, but corporal strength and instinctive courage; but they make their onset with a yell, which, of all sounds, is the most dreadful: they make no bad use of the sling, from which they discharge a shower of stones that darkens the air; but they fight altogether without order.

You now know the origin of the war, and the nature of our enemies. »

After this explanation, Telemachus, who was impatient for a battle, thought only of taking the field. Mentor again perceived and restrained his ardour.

Vienen á unirse con ellos los Locreses, con sus carros armados de cortantes hoces; y los Pulleses cada uno de ellos cubierto con la piel de una fiera, muerta á sus mismas manos. Llevan ciertas mazas pesadas, llenas de gruesos nudos, y guarnecidas de una punta de hierro: son de estatura casi agigantada, y sus cuerpos se hacen tan robustos con los ejercicios trabajosos, que sin cesar practican, que solo al mirarlos dan espanto. Los Locreses, venidos de la Grecia, conservan todavía no sé qué de su origen, y son mas tratables que los demas; pero á la perfecta disciplina de Griegos han unido el vigor de los bárbaros, y el ejercicio de una vida dura es el que los hace invencibles. Llevan ciertos escudos ligeros, que se texen de mimbres, y se cubren de pieles, y a su lado largas espadas. Los Abruceses son diestros en correr como ciervos; parece que la yerba mas tierna no queda maltratada al pisarla sus pies, y apenas en la arena dexan alguna huella de sus pasos. Se ven arrojar sobre sus enemigos, y desaparecer al instante con igual presteza. Los pueblos de Croton tienen perfecta destreza en disparar saetas. Un hombre ordinario de Grecia no podria tender el arco de la manera que se ve comunmente entre los Crotenses; y si se aplicáran á nuestros juegos, ciertamente ganarian el premio de vencedores. Tienen sus flechas en el zumo de yerbas venenosas, que, á lo que es fama, vienen de las orillas del rio Averno, cuyo veneno es mortal. Los de Nevita, de Mesapia, y de Brindez no tienen sino la fuerza del cuerpo y un valor sin arte. Son horribles los gritos que levantan al cielo, llegando á vista de los enemigos: usan muy bien de la honda, y obscurecen el ayre con una granizada de piedras, que sacan de ella; mas pelean sin algun orden.

He aquí, Mentor, lo que deseais saber: ahora comprehendereis el origen de esta guerra, y cuáles son nuestros enemigos.

Despues de esta informacion, impaciente Telémaco por pelear, creia que no faltaba mas ya sino tomar las armas. Detúvolo Mentor, y habló así á Idomenéo:

« How comes it , » said he to Idomeneus « that the Locrians, who are themselves of Grecian origin, have taken up arms for the barbarians against the Greeks ? How comes it that so many colonies flourish upon the same coast, that are not threatened with the same hostilities ? You say, O Idomeneus ! that the gods are not yet weary of persecuting you ; and I say, that they have not yet completed your instruction. All the misfortunes that you have suffered hitherto, have not taught you, what should be done to prevent a war. What you have yourself related of the candid integrity of these barbarians, is sufficient to shew, that you might have shared with them the blessings of peace ; but pride and arrogance necessarily bring on the calamities of war. You might have changed hostages ; and it would have been easy to have sent some persons, of proper authority, with the ambassadors, to have procured them a safe return. After the war had broken out, you might have put an end to it, by representing to the sufferers, that they were attacked by a party of your people, who could have received no intelligence of the treaty which had been just concluded. Such sureties ought to have been given them, as they should have required ; and your subjects should have been enjoined to keep the treaty inviolate, under the sanction of the severest punishments. But what further has happened, since the war broke out ? »

« I thought it beneath us, » said Idomeneus, « to make any application to these barbarians, when they had precipitately called together all their fighting men, and solicited the assistance of all the neighbouring nations, to which they necessarily rendered us hateful and suspected, I thought the best thing I could do, was suddenly to seize certain passes in the mountains that were not sufficiently secured, which was accordingly done ; and this has put the barbarians very much in our power. I have erected towers in these passes, from which our people can so annoy the enemy, as effectually to prevent their invading our country from the mountains ; while we can enter theirs, and ravage their principal settlements when we please. We are thus in a condition to defend ourselves against superior force,

¿ De dónde viene pues , que los Locreses , pueblos salidos de Grecia , se junten con los bárbaros contra los Griegos ? ¿ De dónde , que en esta ribera florecen tantas colonias griegas , sin estar obligadas á mantener el peso de las guerras , que habeis vos de llevar ? Decis Idomenéo , que los dioses no se han cansado aun de perseguiros , y yo os digo que aun no han acabado de enseñaros. Tantas desgracias como habeis padecido no os han enseñado aun lo que es menester hacer para prevenir la guerra. Lo que contaís vos mismo de la buena fé de los bárbaros basta para mostrar que hubierais podido vivir en paz con ellos ; pero la altivez , y soberbia arrastran de ordinario las guerras mas arriesgadas. Hubierais podido darles , y recibir de ellos rehenes , y hubiera sido fácil enviar con sus embajadores algunos de vuestros capitanes para restituirles con seguridad. Despues de comenzada esta guerra , hubierais tambien podido apaciguarlos , mostrándoles que vuestros cazadores los envistiéron , porque no estaban noticiosos de la amistad recíproca , poco ántes jurada. Convenia que les hubierais ofrecido todas las seguridades que os hubieran pedido , y establecer rigurosos castigos contra vuestros súbditos , que violáran las leyes de la confederacion. ¿ Pero qué es lo que ha sucedido despues que se ha empezado esta guerra ?

Creís , respondió Idomenéo , que hubieramos podido nosotros pedir la paz á estos bárbaros , que presurosamente juntáron todos los que entre ellos se encuentran en edad de manejar las armas , y haciéndonos odiosos á todos los pueblos vecinos , les pidieron socorro para invadirnos ? Parecióme consejo mas seguro ocupar prontamente ciertos pasos de las montañas , que estaban mal guardados. Tomámoslos sin algun trabajo y con eso nos hemos puesto en estado de exterminar los bárbaros. He hecho en ellos fabricar torres , desde donde nuestros soldados pueden oprimir con los dardos á todos los contrarios , que quisieran por las montañas penetrar en nuestro pais ; y podemos quando queramos entrarnos en el suyo , y dar saco á sus principales habitaciones. De esta manera estamos

and keep of the almost innumerable multitude of enemies that surround us , although our force is not equal ; but as to peace , it seems at present to be impossible. We cannot abandon these towers , without exposing ourselves to invasion ; and while we keep them , they are considered as fortresses , intended to reduce the natives to a state of slavish subjection. »

« I know , replied Mentor , » that to the wisdom of Idomeneus , truth will be most welcome without ornaments and disguise. You are superior to those , who , with equal weakness and timidity , turn away their eyes at her approach ; and not having courage to correct their faults , employ their authority to support them. I will then freely tell you , that these savages set you a noble example , when they came with propositions of peace. Did they desire peace , because they were not able to sustain a war ? Did they want either courage or strength to take the field against you ? Certainly they did not , for their martial spirit is now equally manifest , with the number and force of their allies. Why was not their example thought worthy of imitation ? You have been deceived into misfortune , by false notions , both of honour and shame : you have been afraid of making your enemies proud ; but have , without scruple , made them powerful , by an arrogant and injurious conduct , which has united innumerable nations against you. To what purpose are these towers , of which you have so pompously displayed the advantages ; but to reduce all the surrounding nations to the necessity , either of perishing themselves , or of destroying you to preserve their freedom ? You erected these towers for your security ; but they are really the source of your danger.

A kingdom is best fortified by justice , moderation , and good faith ; by which neighbouring states are convinced , that their territories will never be usurped. The strongest walls may give way , by various accidents , which no sagacity can foresee ; and the best conducted war may be rendered unsuccessful , by the mere caprice and inconsistency of Fortune : but the love and confidence of neighbouring states that have experienced your moderation , will surround you with im-
pre-

en estado de resistir con fuerzas desiguales á la infinita multitud de enemigos , de que nos hallamos ceñidos. Por otra parte la paz entre ellos , y nosotros se ha hecho muy difícil. No podremos resignar en sus manos las torres , sin quedarnos sujetos á sus correrías , y ellos las miran como ciudadelas , de que nos queremos servir para hacerlos nuestros esclavos.

Vos sois Rey sabio , respondió Mentor , y quereis se os descubra la verdad , sin suavizar su esperanza ; no sois como aquellos sujetos débiles , que tienen miedo de verla , y que faltos de esfuerzo para enmendarse , no emplean su autoridad sino en sostener los errores que han cometido. Sabed , pues , que ese pueblo bárbaro os ha dado admirable enseñanza , viniendo á pedirós la paz. ¿ Os la pedia acaso por flaqueza ? ¿ Tenia por ventura falta de corage , ó de partido contra vosotros ? Vos mismo veis que no ; pues está así amaestrado en la guerra , y sostenido de tantos formidables vecinos. ¿ Porqué no imitais vos su moderacion ? Pero os ha hecho caer en esta desventura una dañosa vergüenza , y una presuncion detestable. Habeis tenido miedo de hacer al enemigo demasiado orgulloso , y no habeis reparado en hacerle sobrado poderoso , haciendo que contra vos se confederaran los pueblos por vuestro injusto y altivo proceder. ¿ De que os sirven las torres , que tanto blasonais , sino de meter á todos vuestros vecinos en la necesidad de morir , ó haceros morir á vos mismo , por preservarse de una servidumbre inminente ? No habeis levantado las torres sino para poneros en seguro , y por la mismá causa estais en un riesgo muy grande.

La mas segura defensa de un estado es la moderacion , la justicia , la buena fé y la certeza que tienen los vecinos , de que sois incapaz de usurparles sus tierras. Las mas fuertes murallas se pueden arruinar por diferentes casos no prevenidos ; la fortuna en la guerra es caprichosa , y no tiene constancia ; pero el amor que os conciben , y la confianza que de vos tienen vuestros vecinos , porque han conocido vuestra moderacion , hacen que vuestro estado no pueda ser vencido ;

guable strength ; with bulwarks against which no force can prevail , and which temerity will seldom attack. If you shall be assailed by the folly and injustice of some neighbouring power , all the rest , being interested in your preservation , will unite in your defence : the assistance of united nations , who would find it their interest to support yours , would give you advantages greatly superior to any that you can hope from these boasted towers ; which can only render irremediable those evils they were intended to obviate. If you had been careful , at first , to prevent jealousy in the neighbouring states , your rising city would have flourished in peace ; and you would have become the arbiter of all the nations in Hesperia.

Let us , however , at present , consider only how the future can be made to atone for the past.

You say , there are many colonies settled upon this coast from Greece ; these , surely , are disposed to succour you : they cannot have forgotten the name of Minos , the son of Jupiter ; they cannot have forgotten your achievements at the siege of Troy , where you often signalized yourself among the Grecian princes in the cause of Greece : why do you not engage these colonies in your interest ? »

« These colonies , » replied Idomeneus , « have all resolved to stand neuter ; they have , indeed , some inclination to assist me ; but the magnificent appearance of our city , while it is yet rising from its foundations , has alarmed them. The Greeks , as well as the rest of our neighbours , are apprehensive , that we have designs upon their liberty : they imagine , that after having subdued the barbarians of the mountains , we shall push our ambition farther. In a word , all are against us ; those who do not openly attack us , secretly wish to see us humbled ; and jealousy has left us without a single ally. »

« This is , indeed , a strange extremity , » said Mentor ; by attempting to appear powerful , you have sub-

y que casi jamas sea invadido. Aun quando un injusto vecino lo acometiera , toman luego las armas todos los otros interesados en defenderlo por su propia conservacion. El apoyo de tantos pueblos , que hallarian sus verdaderas ventajas en mantener las vuestras , os hubiera hecho harto mas poderoso que las torres , que hacen irremediables a vuestros males. Si hubierais al principio pensado en quitar los zelos á vuestros vecinos , florecería vuestra ciudad en una paz feliz , y vos fuerais el árbitro de todos los estados de la Hesperia.

Ahora desviando qualquiera otro discurso , pongamos en examen , como en lo venidero se puede reparar lo pasado.

Habéisme comenzado á decir , que en esta misma costa hay diferentes colonias griegas : esas deben estar dispuestas para daros socorro , porque no se habrán olvidado , ni del grande nombre de Minos , hijo de Júpiter , ni de los trabajos que vos mismo habeis padecido en el asedio de Troya ; en donde tantas veces os habeis hecho célebre entre aquellos príncipes , por la causa comun de toda la Grecia. ¿ Porqué no discurris en procurar que esas colonias hagan liga con vos ?

Todas ellas han hecho resolucion , respondió Idomenéo , de quedar neutrales. No es porque ya no tenian alguna inclinacion á socorrerme ; pero el demasiado gran lustre que tuvo esta ciudad en sus principios , les ha causado espanto. Los Griegos han temido , no ménos que los otros , que formaríamos algun designio para acabar con su libertad. Han creido que en haber sojuzgado á los bárbaros de las montañas , no se contentaria nuestra soberbia , y pasaria mas adelante. En una palabra , todas las cosas estan contra nosotros : aquellos mismos que no nos hacen guerra declarada , desean ver nuestro abatimiento , y no nos dexa el miêdo algun amigo.

¡ Extremo raro ! volvió á decir Mentor. Por querer parecer sobrado poderoso , vos mismo destruís vuestro

verted your power ; and while you are the object of enmity and terror to your neighbours from without , your strength is exhausted within , to maintain a war which this enmity and terror have made necessary. You are , indeed , unfortunate to have incurred this calamity , but—still more unfortunate , to have derived from it but half the wisdom it might have taught you. Is it necessary you should lose a second kingdom , before you learn to foresee those evils which expose you to such a loss ? Leave your present difficulties , however , to me ; tell me only , what Grecian cities there are upon this coast. »

« The principal , » said Idomeneus , « is Tarentum , which was founded about three years ago by Phalanthus. A great number of boys were born in Laconia , of women that forgot their husbands during their absence in the Trojan war ; when these husbands came back , the women renounced their children , to atone for their crime ; and the boys being thus destitute both of father and mother , abandoned themselves , as they grew up , to the most criminal excesses. The laws being executed against them with great severity , they formed themselves into a body under Phalanthus , a bold , enterprising , and ambitious chief ; who , by various artifices , having gained the hearts of the young men , brought them to this coast where they have made another Lacedemon of Tarentum. On another spot , Philoctetes , who gained so much renown at the siege of Troy , by bringing thither the arrows of Hercules , has raised the walls of Petilia ; less powerful , indeed , than Tarentum , but governed with much greater wisdom. And , at a little distance , there is Metapontum , a city which the Pylians have founded under the direction of Nestor. »

« How , » said Mentor , « have you Nestor in Hesperia ? and could you not engage him in your interest ? Nestor , under whose eye you have so often fought before the walls of Troy , and who was then your friend , engaged in a common cause , and endeared by mutual danger ? » — « I have lost him , » said Idomeneus , « by the artifices of these people , who are

poder; y miéntras sois afuera objeto del temor y del odio, os consumis adentro con los esfuerzos, que estais obligado á hacer, para llevar el peso de una tal guerra. ¡O misero, y dos veces misero Idomenéo, que la misma desgracia no ha podido enseñaros sino es en parte! ¿Habréis por suerte de menester aun una segunda caída, para aprender á preveer los males, que amenazan á los Reyes mayores de la tierra? Dexadme obrar, y contadme tan solamente con distincion cuáles son las ciudades griegas, que rehusan vuestra alianza.

La principal, respondió Idomenéo, es la ciudad de Taranto, que ha tres años que la fundó Falanto en esta misma costa. Juntó en la Laconia un gran número de aquellos jóvenes, que nacióron de las mugeres que se olvidáron de sus maridos ausentes en tiempo del asedio de Troya; y que, restituidos los maridos, para enlazar segunda vez con ellos, en destestacion de su mala fé, abandonáron sus partos. El grau número pues de jóvenes nacidos fuera de matrimonio, como no conociéron mas padre, ni madre, se criáron con una desmesurada licencia. Reprimió su desenfrenamiento la severidad de las leyes: uniéronse á Falanto, capitan atrevido, ambicioso é intrépido, que con sus artificios les acertó á tomar los corazones, y de Laconia hizo que le siguieran hasta esta costa, donde han fundado á Taranto, que es otra Lacedemonia. Filotetes por otra parte, que en el sitio de Troya alcanzó gran gloria con las flechas de Hércules, ha tambien levantado no léjos de este sitio los muros de Petilia, ménos poderosa sin duda, pero gobernada mas sabiamente que Taranto. Finalmente tenemos á poca distancia la ciudad de Metaponto, fundada con sus Pilios por el sabio Nestor.

¿Luego vos, replicó Mentor, teneis á Nestor en la Hesperia, y no le habeis sabido hacer que se declarara vuestro, y traerlo á hacer liga con vos? ¿Nestor, que tantas veces os ha visto pelear con los enemigos Troyanos, y que con vos tenia estrecha amistad? Perdila, volvió á responder Idomenéo, por la arte de esa gente, que no tienen de bárbaros sino el nombre.

barbarians only in name; for they have had the cunning to persuade him, that I intended to make myself tyrant of Hesperia. » « We will undeceive him, » replied Mentor; « Telemachus saw him at Pylos, before he founded this colony, and before we undertook to search the world for Ulysses. By Nestor, Ulysses cannot be forgotten; and he must still remember the tenderness, which he expressed for Telemachus his son. Our principal care must be to remove his suspicions. This war has been kindled by the jealousy which you have excited in your neighbours; and by removing that jealousy, it will be extinguished. Once more I entreat you to leave the management of this affair to me. »

Idomeneus was so moved by this address of Mentor, that he was at first unable to reply, and could only clasp him to his breast, in an ecstacy of speechless tenderness; at last, though not without difficulty, he found words; « Thou art, » said he, « the messenger of heaven! I feel thy wisdom, and renounce my errors: yet I confess that the same freedom, in another, would have provoked my anger. Thou only couldst have persuaded me to seek for peace; I had resolved to perish, or to conquer; but it is better I should be guided by thy counsel, than my own passions. How happy is Telemachus, who, with such a guide, can never wander as I have wandered! I trust, with implicit confidence, to thee: to thee, the gods have communicated celestial wisdom: nor could the counsel of Minerva have been more salutary than thine. Go, then; promise, conclude, concede, whatever my power can fulfil, ratify, or give up: all that Mentor shall do, Idomeneus shall approve! »

While Idomeneus was yet speaking, they were alarmed by a sudden and confused noise; the rattling of chariots, the neighing of horses, the shouts of men, and the sound of the trumpet. The people cried out, that the enemy had taken a great compass, and come down without attempting the passes that Idomeneus had secured, to besiege Salentum. The old men and the women were struck with consternation: « Alas! » said they, « have we then quitted our native country,

Han sido tan sagaces , que le han dado á entender que queria yo sujetar toda la Hesperia y tiranizarla. Nosotros le desengañaremos , dixo Mentor. Telémaco le vió en Pilo , ántes que viniera á hacer esa colonia , y ántes que nos pusieramos á hacer nuestro gran viage para ir en busca de Ulises. No se habrá él olvidado de un tal heroe , ni de las expresiones de cariño que hizo á su hijo Telémaco ; pero lo principal es sacarlo de sus sospechas. La guerra se ha encendido por la sombra que habeis vos hecho á todos vuestros vecinos , y puede desviarse la misma guerra , disipando solamente esa sombra. Dexadme obrar , os vuelvo á decir otra vez.

A estas voces Idomenéo , abrazando á Mentor , se enternecia y no podia hablar. Finalmente profirió con trabajo estas palabras ; Confieso , anciano sabio , enviado de los dioses para el reparo de todos mis errores , que me hubiera enojado con qualquiera otro que me hubiera hablado con tanta libertad como vos ; y confieso tambien , que vos sois solo quien puede reducirme á pedir la paz. Habia resuelto morir , ó vencer á mis enemigos ; pero la razon quiere que siga antes vuestros prudentes consejos , que no á mi propria passion. Vos no os podréis , Telémaco dichoso , desviar como yo , de la derecha senda con semejante guia. Vos , ó Mentor , sois absoluto dueño de Idomenéo : teneis todo el saber de los dioses , y Minerva misma no podria dar consejos mas saludables. Andad , prometed , estableced y dad liberalmente lo que gustareis de todo lo que es mio. Idomenéo hara bueno todo lo que juzgareis vos ser conveniente hacer.

Hablando de esta forma , se sentió de repente un confuso rumor de carros , de caballos que relinchaban , de hombres que daban tremendos alaridos , y de trompetas que llenaban el ayre de marcial estruendo. Gritan los Salentos : He aquí á los enemigos , que evitando los pasos guarnecidos de nuestras armas , han dado una gran vuelta ; helos aqui venir á asediar á Salento. Los viejos , y mugeres mostraban sin recato su excesivo temor. Miseros de nosotros , decian , que hubi-

the dear and fertile plains of Crète, and followed an unfortunate prince, through all the dangers of the seas, to found a new city, which, like Troy, shall be reduced to ashes ! » From the walls, which were scarcely finished, there appeared, in the vast plain below, the casques, cuirasses, and shields of the enemy, which glittered in the sun, and almost dazzled the sight : their spears covered the earth to the horizon; like the rich harvests, which Ceres, under the summer's sun, ripens in the fields of Enna, to reward the labour of the husbandman. Among these, were discovered the chariots armed with scythes; and all the different nations in the confederacy, were, by their arms and habits, easily to be distinguished.

Mentor, that he might view them to greater advantage, ascended a high tower; and Idomeneus and Telemachus followed him. They presently discovered Philoctetes on one side, and Nestor, who was easily known by his venerable age, with his son Pisistratus, on the other : « How is this, » cried Mentor ! « you supposed that Philoctetes and Nestor would content themselves with affording you no assistance; but you see that they are in arms against you; and, if I am not deceived, those other troops, that come on with so deliberate a pace, and in such perfect order, are Lacedemonians, under the command of Phalanthus. All are against you; there is not a single nation upon the coast, of which you have not made an enemy, without intending it. »

Mentor, the moment he had made this discovery, descended hastily from the tower, and went towards a gate of the city, on that side, towards which the enemy advanced : he immediately ordered the centinel to open it; and Idomeneus, astonished at the commanding dignity of his deportment, did not dare to ask his design. He went out at the gate; and, making a sign with his hand, that nobody should follow him, advanced directly towards the front of the enemy, who were astonished to see a man, wholly unattended, present himself before them. While he was yet at a distance, he held out to them the branch of an olive, as a token of peace : when he was come

mos de dexar nuestra amada patria, la fertil Creta, y seguir á un Rey infeliz, cruzando tantos mares, para fundar una nueva ciudad, que como Troya se deshará en cenizas. Desde los muros, que acababan de fabricarse, veian relucir en la campaña los escudos, y yelmos enemigos, y con los reflexos que el sol hacia en ellos, se les deslumbraban los ojos. Veíanse tambien espesas lanzas, que cubrian la tierra, cómo en el ardor del estío la cubren las mieses copiosas, con que el labrador se recobra de sus fatigas. Ya se divisaban los carros armados de hoces horribles; y entre todos aquellos que venian marchando en ordenanza, fácilmente se discernia cada uno de los pueblos concurrentes.

Para mas claramente conocerlos, se subió Mentor á una torre, siguiéndole de cerca Idomenéo y Telémaco. Apenas estuvo en lo alto, quando descubrió en una parte á Filotetes, y en otra parte á Nestor con su hijo Pisistrato. Vos, dixo gritando Mentor, creisteis, Idomenéo, que se contentaban Nestor y Filotetes con no daros socorro? Helos que han tomado las armas contra vos; y si yo no me engaño, son las haces Lacedemonias que conduce Falanto, las que marchan con tanta rapidez, y en tan buena ordenanza. Todos van contra vos: no hay vecino en ésta rivera, que no hayais hecho, sin pretenderlo, vuestro contrario.

Baxó Mentor apresuradamente de lo alto de la torre, diciendo estas palabras: camina ácia la puerta de la ciudad (que estaba á aquella parte por donde se avanzaba el enemigo): hazela abrir; y atónito Idomenéo, viendo la magestad con que hace Mentor estas cosas, ni aun aliento le queda para pedirle que le declare lo que pretende hacer. A este tiempo hizo seña con la mano para que ninguno le siguiera: despues se adelantó á los enemigos, que se maravillaban mirando á un hombre solo, que se acercaba á ellos, á quienes en señal de la paz mostró un ramo de olivo, que llevaba en la mano. Quando estuvo á tan corto trecho, que podian oirle, pidió que se juntáran sus

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near enough to be heard, he demanded that their chiefs should be assembled; and as soon as they were got together, he addressed them in these terms:

« I see before me, the strength of every nation that flourishes in this happy country; and I know, that the generous purpose of this assembly is the defence of a common cause; of that liberty which is at once the birth-right, the happiness, and the glory of mankind. I honour your zeal; but permit me to point out an easy way, by which your liberty and honour may be preserved, without the effusion of blood. Among other princes in this assembly, I see Nestor: thy years and wisdom, O Nestor! have acquainted thee with the calamities of war, even when it is undertaken with justice, and favoured by the gods: war is the most dreadful of all evils, by which heaven has afflicted man. Thou canst never forget what was suffered by the Greeks, during the ten years that they spent before the walls of Troy: what divisions among their chiefs! what caprices of fortune! what carnage by the hand of Hector! what calamity in distant cities, during the long absence of their kings; and what misfortunes at their return! how some were shipwrecked on the promontory of Caphareus; and some perished, with circumstances of yet more horror, in the bosoms of their wives. The gods, doubtless, in their wrath, suffered them to be seduced by the false splendour of that expedition: may they never, O people of Hesperia! distinguish you by so fatal a victory! Troy, indeed, is in ashes; but it would have been better for Greece, if she had still flourished in all her glory, and Paris had still enjoyed, with Helen, such pleasures as are permitted to infamy and guilt. Does not Philoctetes, who was so long wretched and abandoned in the isle of Lemnos, fear the like calamities from a like war? Have not the people of Laconia suffered equally by the long absence of their princes, their captains, and their soldiers, who went to the siege of Troy? And is there a single Grecian, at this hour, upon the coast of Hesperia, that is not a fugitive from his country, in consequence of that fatal expedition?»

capitanes : juntáronse al instante , y hablóles de este modo :

Generosos varones de todas las naciones , que florecen en la rica Hesperia , á quienes aquí veo unidos : sé que no habeis venido por otra causa sino por la comun de la libertad de todos , y alabo el zelo de que os moveis. Pero permitid que os declare un modo facil de conservar la libertad , y la gloria de todos vuestros pueblos sin derramar sangre humana. Nestor , Nestor prudente , á quien veo en esta asamblea , bien sabeis vos quán funesta es la guerra , aun para aquellos que con justicia la emprenden , y con el favor de los dioses. Entre todos los males con que afligen los dioses á los hombres , la guerra es el mayor. No podréis olvidaros jamas de lo que por diez años han padecido los Griegos delante de la misera Troya. ¡ Qué divisiones entre los capitanes ! ¡ Qué trastornos de la fortuna ! ¡ Qué estragos de los Griegos á manos de Hector ! ¡ Qué contratiempos en las ciudades mas poderosas , ocasionados de la prolixa ausencia de sus Reyes , á causa de la guerra ! A la vuelta unos han naufragado , otros han encontrado una funesta muerte en el seno de sus mugeres. Luego vosotros , ó dioses , indignados contra los Griegos , les hicisteis tomar las armas para aquella famosa empresa. Plegue á los dioses mismos , ó pueblos de la Hesperia , que jamas os otorguen victoria tan funesta. Troya está hecha cenizas , es verdad ; pero fuera mejor para los Griegos que se estuviera aun con todo el esplendor de su gloria , y que aun disfrutára el desgraciado París el amor de la infame que dexó á su esposo. Vos , Filotetes , tanto tiempo infeliz , y abandonado en la isla de Lemnos , ¿ no temeis encontrar en semejante guerra no desemejante desgracia ? Sé que tambien los pueblos de Laconia han experimentado el desorden ; nacido de la ausencia de sus capitanes y Príncipes , y hasta de sus soldados , que dexáron la patria por mover á Troya la guerra. Vos , ó Griegos , que habeis venido á Hesperia , no venisteis á ella sino por una serie de desgracias , de que fué la ocasion la guerra mencionada.

During this address, Mentor advanced towards the Pylians; and Nestor, recollecting his features, came forward to salute him: « It is with great pleasure, » said he, « that I once more give my hand to Mentor. It is many years since I first saw you in Phocis: you were then only fifteen years old; but I perceived the dawning of that wisdom that has been since so conspicuous to the world. Tell us, however, by what chance you came hither; and what expedient you have thought of, to prevent a war. Idomeneus has compelled us to attack him. We demand only peace! which is our interest, and our desire; but it is impossible that peace should be secured, till he is destroyed. He has violated all his engagements with the neighbouring people; and if we were now to conclude a treaty with him, it would serve no other end than to dissolve our confederacy, upon which only our safety depends. He has sufficiently manifested his ambition to reduce every other nation to slavery; and we have no means to establish our own liberty, but the subversion of his new kingdom. His want of public faith has reduced us to this alternative, either of putting an end to his power, or of receiving his yoke. If you can shew, that he may still be trusted with safety, and assure us of peace in consequence of a treaty; all the nations that you see here confederated against him, will gladly lay down their arms, and we will confess that your wisdom is greater than ours. »

« You know, » replied Mentor, « that Ulysses has entrusted his son Telemachus to my care. The young man, impatient to discover what was become of his father, went first to Pylos, where you received him with all the kindness that he had reason to expect from the friend of his father; and when he left you, appointed your own son to conduct him on his way. He went afterwards many distant voyages by sea; he had visited Sicily and Egypt, and the islands of Cyprus and Crete: the winds, or rather the gods, have at length thrown him upon this coast, as he was returning to Ithaca. We are just come in time to spare you

Despues de hablar así, se adelantó Mentor ácia los Pilios; y Nestor, que le habia conocido, tambien partió para él á saludarle. Hace ya muchos años que la primera vez os ví en Fócide, le dixo con agrado Nestor: no teniais aun quinze años, y conocí ya entónces que habiais de ser tan sabio como despues lo habeis sido. ¿Qué fortuna os conduxo á este lugar? ¿Y qué modo tendréis para terminar esta guerra? Idomenéo nos ha obligado á invadirlo: nosotros no buscamos sino la paz, y importa en gran manera á los intereses de todos el desearla: mas no podemos ya creerle ni asegurarnos de él. Ha quebrantado todas sus promesas á sus mas cercanos vecinos: ha dado á entender á los otros la intencion ambiciosa de hacerlos sus esclavos, y no nos ha dexado modo alguno de abrigar nuestra libertad, sino procurando oprimir su reyno, que ahora empieza. Si hallais alguna forma de hacer que nos podamos fiar de él, y estar seguros en verdadera paz, y duradera, todos los pueblos que aquí teneis presentes, dexarémos las armas con voluntad, y confesarémos gustosos, que nos aventajais en prudencia. Así dixo Nestor; y Mentor de ésta suerte le replicó:

Vos sabeis, ó sabio Nestor, que Ulises encargó á mi confianza su hijo Telémaco. Este jóven impaciente, por no saber lo que á su padre habia acontecido, pasó á vuestra casa en Pilo, en donde le acogisteis con todas las muestras de amor que él podia esperar de un tan fiel amigo de Ulises, y disteis el cuidado de acompañarle á vuestro mismo hijo. Despues él ha emprendido largas navegaciones, y ha corrido á Sicilia, Egipto, Chipre y Creta. Los vientos ó los dioses, por decirlo mejor, lo han echado á esta costa, quando ya resolvía la vuelta ácia su patria, y hemos llegado acá, para excusaros una horrible y cruel guerra. Ya

the horrors of another war : for you shall not now trust in Idomeneus , but in the son of Ulysses and myself , for the fulfilling of whatever shall be stipulated in a treaty of peace. »

During this conference between Mentor and Nestor , in the midst of the confederate troops ; Idomeneus and Telemachus , with all the Cretans under arms , were spectators of the scene from the walls of Salentum : they were very attentive to discover in what manner Mentor's discourse was received ; and wished they could have been present at the conference of two men , so venerable for age and wisdom. Nestor had always been considered as superior to the other princes of Greece in experimental knowledge and graceful elocution : it was he that restrained the anger of Achilles , the pride of Agamemnon , the ferocity of Ajax , and the precipitate courage of Diomedes : persuasion , sweet as honey , distilled from his lips : and the sound of his voice alone was sufficient to excite attention : when Nestor spoke , surrounding heroes were silent , and he only had the power of soothing discord into peace. He began now to feel the chilling influence of age ; but his words were still forcible and still sweet. He frequently related past events , that youth might be instructed by his experience ; and though his speech was somewhat slow , yet his narratives were pleasing.

But this venerable sage , so admired by all Greece , seemed to lose all his eloquence , and all his dignity , from the moment that he appeared in competition with Mentor ; in comparison with him , he seemed to be withered and depressed by age ; for the vigour and activity of Mentor appeared to have suffered no injury from time. In the elocution of Mentor , though it was grave and simple , there was a vivacity and authority , which began to be wanting in that of Nestor : what he said , was short , precise , and nervous ; he made no repetitions , and he spoke only to the point in question : if it was necessary to mention the same thing more than once , either to inculcate or to persuade , it was always by some happy simile or allusion : he had also the art of insinuating truth , by a kind of name-

no es Idomenéo, es el hijo de Ulises, soy yo quien se os da por fiador de quanto se os prometa.

Hablando así ambos ancianos en medio del ejército aliado, les estaban mirando de lo alto de los muros de Salento Telémaco, Idomenéo, y todos los Cretenses armados. Estábanse observando con atencion, como eran recibidas las voces de Mentor, y hubieran querido escuchar las prudentes razones de ambos varones. Siempre habia sido reputado Nestor por el Rey mas experimentado y mas eloqüente de Grecia. En tiempo del asedio de Troya él solo podia templar la saña fogosa de Aquiles, el orgullo de Agamenon, la ferocidad de Ajax, y precipitado corage de Diómedes. Salia de sus labios, como de un arroyo suave de leche, una dulce y persuasiva facundia: sola su voz se hacia oir de todos aquellos héroes con gustosa atencion. En abriendo Nestor la boca, executaba en todos el silencio; y él era únicamente quien bastaba á quietar en el campo el furor de la feroz discordia. Comenzaba sí á sentir en él las injurias de la vejez helada; pero eran todavía sus palabras no ménos asistidas de energía que de dulzura. Contaba las cosas pasadas, para amaestrar los jóvenes con sus experiencias mismas; pero aunque las contaba con un poco de lentitud, hacía lo con gracia.

Pareció que este viejo, admirado de toda Grecia, hubiera perdido toda su eloqüencia, y toda su magestad en aquel mismo punto que se careó con Mentor. Su ancianidad parecia caída, y desmayada, en coitejo de la de Mentor, en la qual se pensara que los años habian respetado á la fuerza y vigor de la complexion. Las voces de Mentor, bien que graves y llanas, tenian una vivacidad y una autoridad que ya se echaba ménos en el otro: todo lo que él decia era discreto, compendioso y fuerte: jamas hacia réplica, ni referia sino lo que era necesario al asunto que se habia de deducir. Si habia de hablar muchas veces de una misma cosa, para imprimirla en los ánimos de los oyentes, ó para lograr persuadirlos, lo hacia con nuevas frases, y con ciertas comparaciones sensibles.

less complaisance and good humour, when it was necessary to accommodate himself to particular dispositions and capacities. There was something in the appearance of these persons, that strongly excited veneration and love among the multitude that surrounded them.

The forces that were confederated against Salentum, crowded one upon another that they might get a nearer view of their persons, and catch up some fragment of their discourse: and Idomeneus, and the people that were with him, fixed their eyes upon them with the utmost eagerness and ardour, to discover the purport of what they said by their gestures and countenance.

END OF THE TENTH BOOK.

Tenia tambien , quando queria ajustarse á la necesidad de los otros , é insinuarles alguna máxima de verdad , un no se qué de apacible y jocoso. Los dos pues hombres tan venerables fueron grato espectáculo á tantos pueblos unidos.

Miéntas todos los coligados enemigos de Salento , se atropellaban por verlos mas de cerca , y procuraban oír sus discretos razonamientos , Idomenéo y los suyos se esforzaban á entender con la vista , mirándolos con ansia y cuidado , lo que significaban sus acciones y el ayre de sus semblantes.

FIN DEL LIBRO DECIMO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK XI.

ARGUMENT.

TELEMACHUS seeing Mentor in the midst of the allies, is impatient to know what passes between them : he causes the gates of Salentum to be opened, and joins his friend : his presence inclines the allies to accept the terms that Mentor has offered on the part of Idomeneus : the allies enter Salentum as friends : Idomeneus confirms the propositions of Mentor, hostages are reciprocally given, and all parties assist at a sacrifice between the city and the camp, as a solemn ratification of the treaty.

IN the mean time, Telemachus, who could no longer restrain his impatience, disengaged himself from the crowd, and running to the gate by which Mentor had gone out, commanded it to be opened with a tone of authority which was immediately obeyed. Idomeneus, who believed him to be still standing at his side, was in a few moments surprised to see him running across the plain, and not far from the place where Nestor stood. Nestor immediately knew him : and advanced, with haste in his looks, but with a slow and heavy pace, to receive him. Telemachus threw himself on his neck, and held him locked in his arms, without power to speak : at last he cried out, « O my father ! I fear not to claim you by the dearest tie ! The loss of him from whom I derived my birth, and the parental kindness which I have experienced in you, give me a right to call you by that tender name. You are a father whom I am again permitted to embrace ! O might I once more be permitted thus to embrace Ulysses ! if any thing can atone for his loss, it is the finding of his wisdom, his virtues, and his tenderness, in you. »

TELÉMACO.

LIBRO XI.

SUMARIO.

TELÉMACO impaciente sale de la ciudad, se presenta á Nestor, y se dan reciprocas señas de ternura y amor. Quéxanse los Mandurios de haber Idomenéo violado sus promesas, y quieren satisfaccion. Promete Mentor en nombre de Idomenéo ciertas seguridades, y pide de que den las partes opuestas rehenes mutuos y convenientes. Es Telémaco comprehendido entre los rehenes, que da Idomenéo. Hacen, y se publica la paz con aplauso militar de ambas partes. Fenecida la guerra, representa Nestor en el congreso de los otros Príncipes el proceder injusto de Adrasto, Rey de los Daunos, que pretende quitarle la libertad. Persuade á Idomenéo, que es interes suyo entrar en la liga contra los Daunos.

EN tanto impaciente Telémaco se quita de los ojos de la multitud que los ciñe: corre á la puerta por donde salió Mentor, y con autoridad se la hace abrir. Bien presto Idomenéo, que creia tenerle al lado, se pasma de verle correr en medio del campo, y que se habia llegado cerca de Nestor. Este le conoció, y se apresuró al punto, aunque con pasos pesados y tardos para recibirle. Luego Telémaco se le arrojó al cuello de un salto, y lo apretó entre sus brazos, sin hablar palabra, y al cabo en alta voz le dixo así: O padre mio, no temo apellidaros con este nombre porque la desventura de no encontrar mi padre verdadero, y los favores que ya me teneis hechos, me dan derecho para servirme de tan cariñosa palabra. Padre mio, amado padre mio! es posible que os vuelvo á ver! Así me permitan los dioses que vuelva á ver tambien á Ulises. Si hubiera alguna cosa que pudiera darme consuelo en tan amarga ausencia, seria hallarme con vos como si fuerais él.

The affectionate ardour of his address melted Nestor into tears ; and he was touched with a secret pleasure at perceiving the same expression of tender sensibility in his young friend , which gave new grace to his countenance. The beauty , the sweetness , and the noble confidence of this young stranger , who had without precaution ventured among so many enemies , astonished the allies : « Is not this the son of the old man , » said they , « who came to speak with Nestor ? We certainly see the same wisdom at two ages ; in one of them it is only in blossom , in the other it is matured into fruit. »

Mentor , who had with great pleasure observed the tenderness with which Nestor received Telemachus , availed himself of a disposition so favourable to his purpose : « Here is the son of Ulyses , » said he , « so dear to all Greece , and so tenderly beloved by you ! I offer him as an hostage , as the dearest pledge that can be given , for the accomplishment of whatever shall be promised on the part of Idomeneus. You cannot suppose that I would aggravate the loss of the father by that of the son ; or expose myself to the reproaches of Penelope , for having sacrificed her child to the ambition of the new king of Salentum. With this pledge , ye nations of Hesperia ! voluntarily offered by himself , and sent by the gods that are lovers of peace , I begin my propositions for establishing her durably. »

At the name of peace , a confused murmur was heard spreading from rank to rank ; an inarticulate expression of anger , which was with difficulty restrained ; for all that were present , thought every moment lost by which the battle was delayed : they imagined , that Mentor had no design but to soften their resentment , and rob them of their prey. The Mandurians , in particular , could not bear to think of being again deceived ; and as they feared that the eloquence of Mentor would gain over their allies , they frequently attempted to interrupt him : they began to suspect all the Greeks that were in the field : and Mentor , who perceived this suspicion , immediately resolved to increase it , that he might weaken the confederacy , by dividing in into factions.

No pudo Nestor á estas voces contener las lágrimas; y viendo aquellas, que con gracia maravillosa corrían á Telémaco por las mexillas sintió moverse de una secreta alegría. La hermosura, dulzura y noble brio del desconocido jóven, que atravesaba solo, sin reparar tantos esquadrones contrarios, admiró á todos los confederados. ¿No es este, preguntaban, hijo de esotro viejo, que ántes vino á hablar á Nestor? Ciertamente que los dos tienen una discrecion misma, distinta solo por la edad diferente: en él ahora florece, y en el otro produce sazonzados frutos con abundancia.

Mentor que habia gustado de la ternura con que Nestor habia recibido á Telémaco, se valió de esta buena disposicion, y le dixo: He aquí, sabio Nestor, al hijo de Ulises, tan amado de toda Grecia, y tan apreciado de vos tambien: aquí le teneis, que os lo pongo en las manos, como los rehenes mas apreciables que se os pudieran dar de las promesas de Idomenéo. Bien podeis discurrir que no quisiera yo que siguiera á la pérdida del padre la del hijo, y que la desgracia de Penélope pudiera reprehender á Mentor haber sacrificado á su hijo Telémaco á la ambicion del nuevo Rey de Salento. Con esta prenda, que por sí misma se os ha venido á ofrecer, y que os envian los dioses amantes de la paz, empiezo, ó pueblos unidos de tantas naciones, á requeriros, para establecer para siempre una inviolable paz.

A este nombre de paz se oyó un rumor confuso de fila en fila por todas partes. Todas aquellas diferentes naciones crugian del enojo, creyendose que perdian tiempo, mientras se dilataba el combate. Imaginábanse, que todos aquellos discursos no se hacian sino es á efecto de entibiar su furor, y hacer que se escápala presa. Especialmente los Mandurios llevaban con impaciencia que Idomenéo esperase engañarlos segunda vez. Pusieronse muchas veces á interrumpir á Mentor, porque temian que sus prudentes razones refriáran la saña de todos los coligados; y empezaban á desconfiar de los Griegos. Mentor, que lo advirtió, se apresuró en aumentar esta desconfianza, para introducir la discordia en los pechos de aquellos pueblos.

» I confess, » said he, « that the Mandurians have reason to complain, and to insist upon satisfaction for the injury they have suffered ; but it is not equally reasonable, that the ancient inhabitants of the country should regard all Greeks, who have established colonies upon this coast, with suspicion and malignity ! the Greeks, therefore, ought to maintain a firm union among themselves, that they may be able to compel a proper treatment from the nations that surround them : although they ought not, upon any pretence, to usurp their territory. I know that Idomeneus has unfortunately given sufficient cause of jealousy ; but this jealousy may easily be removed : Telemachus and myself are both ready to become hostages for his future good faith ; and to continue in your power, till his stipulations shall be fulfilled. « I know, » said he, addressing himself to the Mandurians, « that you are provoked at the Cretans having seized the passes of the mountains by surprise ; and secured to themselves the power of entering, at pleasure, the country to which you have retired, that you might leave them the level country upon the sea coast : these passes, the Cretans have fortified by high towers, strongly garrisoned : these towers then are the immediate cause of the war ? if there is any other, let it be assigned. »

The chief of the Mandurians then advanced, and spoke to the following effect : « Whatever is the cause of the war, we have done every thing that was possible to avoid it : the gods are our witnesses, that we made use of every art to keep peace among us, till she was driven away by the restless ambition of the Cretans, and the perfidy that made it impossible to trust them, even on their oath. These infatuated people have reduced us to the fatal necessity of perishing ourselves, or destroying them. While they continue in possession of the passes they have fortified, we shall always apprehend a design to invade our territory, and enslave our persons. If they had a sincere desire to live at peace with their neighbours, they would rest satisfied with the country that we have voluntarily ceded to them : they would have formed no ambitious designs against the liberty of others ; and, consequently,

Confieso, decía él, que los Mandurios tienen razon para quejarse, y pedir se les satisfagan los ultrages, que han padecido; y que no es asimismo justo, que los Griegos, que son las colonias, que viven con mas regla, sean sospechosos y odiosos á los antiguos pueblos del pais. Al contrario, los Griegos deben ser entre sí concordés, y hacerse tratar bien de los otros: es solo conveniente que sean moderados, y que nunca pretendan usurpar las tierras de sus vecinos. Yo sé que Idomenéo ha tenido el azar de hacerseos sospechoso; pero es fácil el dar remedio á todas vuestras sospechas. Telémaco, y yo nos darémos en vuestras manos por prendas, que os aseguren de la buena fe de Idomenéo. Quedaremos á vuestra discrecion, mientras tanto que las cosas que se os prometen, sean fielmente puestas en execucion. Lo que os provoca al enojo, ó Mandurios, es, que los soldados Cretenses han sorprendido y ocupado los pasos de las montañas, y que se han puesto de esta suerte en estado de entrar á vuestro despecho, las veces que gustaren en el pais en que estais, habiendoles dexado lo llano que está en la rivera del mar: luego los pasos que los Cretenses han guarnecido con altas torres llenas de hombres armados, son la verdadera ocasion de la guerra. Respondedme, ¿teneis acaso alguna otra?

Entónces el capitan de los Mandurios salió á la plaza, y habló de esta manera: ¿Qué hemos omitido nosotros para excusar la guerra? Testigos nos son los dioses que no hemos renunciado la paz, sino quando ella se nos ha huido de las manos; sin que nos quedára esperanza de recobrarla, por la inquieta ambicion de los Cretenses, y la importancia en que ellos nos han puesto de dar fe á sus juramentos. ¡Loca nacion, que nos ha reducido, á nuestro despecho á tomar un partido desesperado contra ella, y á no poder buscar nuestra salud, sino en su destruccion! Mientras que ellos guardaren esos pasos, creerémos siempre que quieren ocupar nuestras tierras, y hacernos sus esclavos. Si fuera verdad, que no piensan sino en vivir en paz con sus vecinos, contentarianse con lo que gustosos les habemos cedido; y no procurarian apoderarse de las puertas de ese pais, contra cuya libertad no tuvieran algun

could never be solicitous to secure the avenues by which their territories could be invaded. But wise as thou art, O full of days ! thou knowest them not : and it is by misfortune only that we know them : cease , then , O beloved of heaven ! to prevent so just and necessary a war , without which Hesperia must for ever despair of peace. They are an ungrateful , a perfidious , an inhuman people , whom the gods have sent among us in their anger , to interrupt our tranquillity , and punish our offences : but the gods , when they have punished , will avenge us : and our enemies also shall experience , that they are just. »

At these words , the whole assembly was moved ; and it seemed , as if Mars and Bellona were passing from rank to rank , and kindling in every bosom , that rage of war which Mentor had laboured to extinguish. But he addressed himself again to the assembly in these terms :

« If I offered promises only , they might reasonably be rejected ; but what I offer you , is certain and immediate advantage. If you are not content to receive Telemachus and myself as hostages , twelve of the noblest and bravest Cretans shall be delivered into your hands. It is however , but just , that hostages should also be given on your part ; for Idomeneus , though he desires peace , desires it without fear and without meanness : he desires peace upon the same principles on which you say you desire it , wisdom and moderation ; not because he desires to repose in voluptuous tranquillity , or is terrified by a prospect of the dangers of war ; he is , like you , ready to perish or to conquer ; but he prefers peace to the most splendid victory : he disdains the fear of being vanquished ; but he confesses , that he fears to be unjust , and is not ashamed to make an atonement for his faults. He offers you peace with the sword in his hand : but he would not haughtily impose it upon his own conditions ; for he sets no value upon a compulsory treaty. He desires a peace , in which all parties shall be content ; which shall put an end to all jealousies , appease all resentment , and remove all distrust ; his sentiments are just what you would wish them to be ; and
ambicioso

ambicioso designio. Pero vos no los conocéis, ó prudente anciano, nosotros sí, que por nuestra grande desgracia habemos aprendido á conocerlos. Dexad, varon amado de los dioses, de retardar una guerra justa y necesaria, sin la qual jamas podria la Hesperia esperar una firme paz. ¡ O nacion ingrata, engañosa y cruel, que indignados los dioses han enviado à nuestros contornos para perturbar nuestra paz; y castigar nuestras culpas ! Pero despues de habernos castigado, nos vengaréis, ó dioses, no seréis ménos justos contra nuestros enemigos, que lo sois contra nosotros mismos.

Vióse con estas voces, que todo aquel concurso se movia à saña, y parecia que Marte, y que Belona iban de fila en fila avivando en los corazones el furor bélico que Mentor procuraba amortiguar. Volvió de nuevo á hablar de esta forma:

Si no hubiera de haceros sino promesas, podriais recusar darme fe; pero os ofrezco cosas presenses y ciertas. Sino os satisfaced de tener en rehenes á Telémaco y á mí mismo, os haré poner en las manos doce de los mas nobles y valientes Cretenses; pero la razon quiere que vosotros por vuestra parte deis tambien rehenes, por quanto Idomenéo, que desea la paz sinceramente, la desea sin miedo y sin villanía. Deséala de la suerte que vosotros mismos decís haberla deseado, por prudencia y moderacion: no por el amor de una vida afeminada, ó por debilidad à la vista de los peligros que amenaza la guerra. El está aparejado à morir ó à vencer; pero antepone la paz á la mas illustre victoria. Avergonzaráse de temer el quedar vencido; pero tiene temor de ser injusto, y no tiene vergüenza de reparar sus errores. Con las armas en las manos ofrece la paz; no pretende imponer las condiciones con altivez, porque no hace algun caso de una paz forzada; quiere una paz de que todas las partes se satisfagan, que ponga fin á todos los recelos, que sosiegue todos los odios, y que cure los ánimos de todas las desconfianzas. En una palabra, Idomenéo tiene todas las buenas intenciones, que es cierto que querriais que tuviese: no se trata sino de que quedeis persuadidos

nothing is necessary, but to convince you of this truth, which would not be difficult, if you would hear me without prejudice and passion.

Hear then, ye nations, distinguished by valour! and hear, ye chiefs, whom wisdom has united! what I shall now offer on the part of Idomeneus. It is not just, that he should invade the territory of his neighbours; neither is it just, that his territory should be invaded: he consents that the towers, by which he has fortified the passes, should be garrisoned by neutral troops. You Nestor, and you Philoctetes, are of Grecian origin: yet, in this quarrel, you have declared against Idomeneus; you cannot, therefore, be suspected of partiality to his interests; you take part only in the common cause, the peace and liberty of Hesperia. To you then, the passes, which have been the cause of the war, shall be confided: you have not less interest in preventing the original natives of Hesperia from destroying Salentum, a new colony like your own; than in preventing Idomeneus from usurping the possessions of his neighbours; hold, then, the balance between them, and, instead of destroying, by fire and sword, a people whom you ought to cherish and to love, secure to yourselves the glory of acting at once as mediator and judge. You will, perhaps, tell me, that these conditions are too good to be fulfilled; but I shall abundantly satisfy you, that Idomeneus is sincere.

The hostages which I have already mentioned, shall be reciprocally given and detained, till the passes shall be put into your hands. When the security, not only of Salentum, but of all Hesperia, is at your discretion, will you not be content? Whom then can you distrust, but yourselves? You do not dare to confide in Idomeneus; but as a proof that his intention is honest, he is ready to confide in you: he is ready to trust you with the quiet, the life, and the liberty of himself and his people: if it is true, that you desire only an equitable and lasting peace, such a peace is now offered you upon terms that leave you no pretence to reject it. Let me, however, once more caution you against imagining that Idomeneus has made

de esto; y no será difícil persuadiros, si quereis darme oídos con ánimo tranquilo y no preocupado.

Oidme, ó pueblos valerosísimos, y vosotros, ó capitanes, tan sabios y concordes, oid lo que os ofrezco de parte de Idomenéo. No es justo que él pueda entrar en las tierras de sus vecinos; ni tampoco es justo, que sus vecinos puedan entrar en las suyas. El consiente, que milicias neutrales guarden los pasos que estan fortificados con altas torres. Vos, Nestor, y vos Filotetes, sois de origen Griegos; pero en esta ocasion os habeis declarado enemigos de Idomenéo: por eso no podeis ser sospechosos de sobrado inclinados á sus ventajas. Lo que os mueve es el comun negocio de la libertad de la Hesperia: sed pues vosotros mismos depositarios y guardas de esos pasos, que son la ocasion de la guerra: no teneis vosotros menos interes en impedir que los pueblos antiguos de la Hesperia destruyan á Salento, nueva colonia de Griegos, semejante á las vuestras, que en estorbar que usurpe Idomenéo las tierras de sus vecinos. Contrapesad las fuerzas de unos y otros, y en lugar de meter á hierro y fuego el pais de un pueblo que estais obligados á amar, conservaos la gloria de ser jueces y medianeros. Dixisteis que los pactos os parecen maravillosos, si pudierais aseguraros que Idomenéo los pasára fielmente á execucion; pero estoy en el punto de satisfaceros.

Servirán de recíproca seguridad los rehenes de que he hablado, mientras todos los pasos se ponen en depósito á vuestra mano. Quando el bien de toda la Hesperia, quando el de Salento misma, y el de Idomenéo se os hayan dexado en las manos, ¿estaréis satisfechos? De ahí en adelante ¿de quién os podréis confiar? ¿Acaso de vos mismos? No os atreveis á fiar de Idomenéo, y Idomenéo es tan incapaz de engañaros, que se quiere fiar en vosotros. Sí; él quiere confiaros la quietud, la vida, la libertad de su pueblo y de sí propio. Si es verdad que deseais solamente una buena paz, he aquí, que se os ofrece, y que os quita qualquier pretexto de rehusarla. Os repito de nuevo, que no creais que se os hacen estas promesas por miedo,

Q 2

this proposal from fear : his motives are prudence and equity ; and , conscious to the rectitude of his intention , he will be under no concern about your opinion , though you should impute that to weakness , which he knows to proceed from virtue. He was , in the beginning , guilty of some faults ; and he thinks it an honour to acknowledge them by the offer of such terms . . . to anticipate your wishes. He who hopes that he shall be able to hide his faults , by affecting to support them with arrogance and pride , discovers the most deplorable weakness , the most despicable vanity , and the grossest ignorance of his own interest ; but he who acknowledges his fault to an enemy , and offers reparation , gives the strongest proof , that he can never commit them again ; and displays a wisdom and fortitude , which , if peace is rejected , must make his enmity formidable. Beware then , that the fault , in the present quarrel , does not become yours. If you reject justice and peace , when they sue for acceptance , be assured , that the cause of peace and justice will be avenged ; and Idomeneus , who has just reason to fear the displeasure of the gods , will engage them in his favour against you. Telemachus and myself will take up arms in his defence ; and I call the powers , both of heaven and of hell to witness , that the proposals which I have now offered you are just. »

Mentor then lifted up the olive branch which he held in his hand , that the distant multitude might behold the symbol of peace. The chiefs , who saw him near , were astonished and dazzled with the celestial radiance that sparkled in his eyes ; and perceived in him something majestic and commanding , beyond all that fancy had given to created beings. The magic of his eloquence , at once so forcible and so sweet , had , as it were , stolen away their hearts : its power was secret , but irresistible : like that of the mysterious spells , which , in the dead silence of the night , arrest the moon and the stars of heaven , calm the raging of the sea , command the winds and the waves to be still , and suspend the most rapid rivers in their course.

He appeared , in the midst of this rude impetuous multitude , like Bacchus surrounded by tigers , whose

ue conciba Idomenéo : la prudencia y justicia son las
ue le precisan á tomar este partido , sin hacer mucho
aso de si le imputaréis á flaqueza lo que hace por
virtud. Ha cometido errores al principio , y ahora
iene á gloria el reconocerlos con las promesas con que
os previene. Es flaqueza y vanidad ridícula , é igno-
ancia loca del interes propio , esperar poder ocultar
os errores , afectando el sostenerles con orgullo y con
altivez. Un hombre que confiesa al contrario los erro-
res propios , y que ofrece dar satisfaccion , mues-
tra que se ha hecho incapaz de cometer otros nuevos ;
y que quando no quiera el enemigo efectuar la paz , lo
debe temer todo de una suerte de obrar tan sabia y tan
constante. Mirad bien , no diréis que él os pueda poner
de parte del agravio. Si rehusais recibir la paz y la
justicia que os viene á buscar , la justicia , y la paz se
sabrán bien vengar. Idomenéo , que debia temer en-
contrar á los dioses indignados contra él , los hallará
favorables contra vosotros. Telémaco , y yo pelearé-
mos por la buena causa , y pongo por testigo de las
proposiciones justísimas que os he hecho , á los dio-
ses del cielo y del infierno.

Acabando de pronunciar estas palabras , levantó en
alto el brazo Mentor , para mostrar á tanta multitud
de gentes el ramo de olivo en su mano ; para señal de
paz. Los capitanes que lo miraron de cerca , quedaron
espantados y desalumbrados de aquel divino que le
resplandecia en los ojos. Hízose ver con una magestad
y una autoridad superior á todo lo que se ve en los mas
grandes hombres. La suave violencia de sus dulces
palabras , y juntamente fuertes , arrebatava los cora-
zones ; y eran semejantes á aquellas palabras mágicas ,
que en el grave silencio de la noche paran en un mo-
mento la luna y las estrellas , abonanzan el mar tem-
pestuoso , hacen callar los vientos y las ondas , y de-
tienen el curso de los rios mas impetuosos.

Mentor estaba en medio de aquellos pueblos enfure-
cidos , como Baco rodeado de los tigres , que olvidados

ferocity had been charmed away by the sweetness of his voice, till they expressed their fondness by their caresses, and their submission by licking his feet. At first, the whole assembly was silent; the chiefs looked upon each other, unable to oppose the eloquence of Mentor, and wondering who he could be. Every eye of the surrounding multitude was immoveably fixed upon him; and every tongue was held silent, for fear he should have still something to say, which the words of another might prevent from being heard. Though they conceived nothing that could be added to what he had said already, yet they wished that he had not been silent so soon; and his words might be said to be engraven upon their hearts. His elocution made him not only believed, but beloved; and held, in suspense, all the faculties of those that heard him, who scarce dared even to breathe, lest they should lose the least word that issued from his lips.

This silence was succeeded by a kind of low murmur, which gradually diffused itself through the whole assembly: it was not the confused sound of inarticulate indignation, but rather the whisper of gentleness and complacency, which were before silently expressed in every countenance. The Mandurians, who had been so lately transported with rage, now let their weapons fall from their hands; and the fierce Phalanthus, with his Lacedemonians, wondered to find themselves softened into kindness: the rest of the united nations began to sigh after the peace which had been held up before them; and Philoctetes, whose sensibility had been increased by misfortune, could not refrain from tears. Nestor, who was so transported with admiration and delight at the discourse of Mentor, that he was unable to speak, embraced him with ineffable tenderness; and the whole multitude cried out together, as if by a signal, « O stranger! thy wisdom has disarmed us: Peace! Peace! »

In the first interval of silence, Nestor attempted to speak: but the troops, fearing he might start some difficulty, again cried out, with the utmost impatience, « Peace! Peace! » and the chiefs found no

de su crueldad , llegaban atraídos de su voz , à lamerle los pies , y à sujetársele con alhagos. Hízose luego un profundo silencio en todo el ejército , y los capitanes se miraban unos á otros , y no podían resistir à tal hombre , ni comprehender quien era. Inmóviles todas las haces tenían fijos en él los ojos ; y nadie se atrevía à levantar la voz , pensando que Mentor aun quería decir alguna cosa , y no queriendo impedirle que prosiguiese , aunque todos creían que nada se podía añadir á lo que ya habia dicho. Habían parecido breves sus palabras , y hubieran deseado que hubiera hablado mas largamente. Quedaba como grabado en los corazones de todos lo que dexaba expresado ; porque hablando , se hacia amar , y se hacia creer ; y cada uno atendia con ansia , como inmóvil , para retener aun las mas breves sílabas que articulaba su boca.

Finalmente , despues de un harto largo silencio , se oyó un baxo susurro , que se iba difundiendo poco á poco. No era ya aquel rumor confuso de las gentes , que rechinaban de cólera , sino que por lo opuesto era un blando y favorable murmullo. Ya se descubria en los rostros no sé qué de sinceridad y templanza ; y los Mandarinos tan envenenados conocian que de las manos se les caían las armas. El feróz Falanto , y sus Lacedemonios se pasmáron , sintiendo sus corazones tan enternecidos ; y los demas empezáron à suspirar por aquella feliz paz que Mentor les habia ofrecido. Filotetes mas facil de moverse á la compasion de qualquiera otro por la experiencia de las desgracias propias , no pudo irse á la mano en las lágrimas. Nestor no pudiendo hablar en aquella conmocion de afectos , que en él habia causado el razonamiento de Mentor , lo abrazó tiernamente , sin poderle decir palabra ; y como si esto fuera una señal de paz , en el mismo tiempo gritó toda la gente : Vos , ó prudente anciano ; nos quitais de las manos las armas : Paz , paz.

Un momento despues quiso empezar Nestor un discurso ; pero todas las tropas impacientes temiéron , que quisiera representárseles alguna nueva dificultad. Paz , paz , gritáron otra vez , y no pudieron los capi :

way of putting them to silence, but by joining in the exclamation.

Nestor perceiving that a set discourse could not be heard, contented himself with saying : « You see , O Mentor ! what wonders the words of a good man can produce. When wisdom and virtue speak , every passion is calm : our resentment, however just , is changed into friendship ; and our impatience for war , into a desire of perpetual peace. The peace that you have offered , we accept. » The chiefs , at the same time , stretched out their hands in token of their consent.

Mentor now ran towards the gate of Salentum , to get it opened , and to acquaint Idomeneus that he might leave the city without fear. In the mean time , Nestor went up to Telemachus and embraced him : « My amiable young friend , » said he , « thy father was the wisest of all the princes of Greece ; mayest thou be favoured with equal wisdom and with better fortune. The similitude of your persons is great ; and the remembrance of Ulysses , which that has revived , contributed to soften our resentment. »

Phalanthus , though he was by nature fierce and unfeeling , and though he had never seen Ulysses , was , notwithstanding , touched at his misfortunes , and those of his son : and the chiefs gathering round Telemachus , were pressing him to relate his adventures , when Mentor returned with Idomeneus , and the Cretan youth who followed in his train.

At the sight of Idomeneus , the resentment of the confederate nations began to revive ; but Mentor extinguished the fire , before it broke out : « Why do we delay , » said he , « to conclude this sacred alliance , which the powers of heaven shall witness and defend ? May the gods avenge its violation , by whomsoever it shall be violated ! And may all the horrors of war , averted from the faithful and the innocent , descend upon the perjured and execrable head of him , whose ambition shall dare to trample upon the sacred rights of this alliance ! May he be detested both in heaven and upon earth ; may he derive no advantage from his perfidy ; may the infernal furies , in the most horrid forms ,

anes poner silencio á sus voces sino gritando todos juntamente con ellos : Paz , paz.

Viendo Nestor muy bien , que no podia hacerse un razonamiento seguido , se contentó con decir estas palabras solas : Veis , Mentor , qu  n grande fuerza tiene la palabra de un hombre honrado. Quando hablan la prudencia y la virtud , ellas ponen sosiego    todas las pasiones , y nuestras justas iras se truecan en cari  os y en deseos de una paz duradera. Nosotros la aceptamos , qual vos mismo nos la ofreceis. Al punto propio todos los capitanes levant  ron las manos en se  al de su consentimiento.

Mentor corri   a la puerta de la ciudad , para mandarla abrir y persuadir que saliese Idomen  o sin s  quito de soldados para su guardia. Entre tanto Nestor abrazaba    Tel  maco , y le decia : O amable hijo del mas sabio entre todos los Griegos , plegue    los dioses que seais igualmente sabio , pero mas feliz que   l.    Habeis jamas podido tener alguna nueva de vuestro padre ? La memoria de Ulises a quien enteramente os semejais , ha servido de amortiguar nuestra c  lera.

Falant   por mas cruel y fer  z que fuera , y por mas que no hubiera visto jamas    Ulises , no podia menos apiadarse de sus desgracias y de las de su hijo. Ya todos le rogaban    Tel  maco que les refiriera las cosas que le habian acaecido , quando Mentor volvi   con Idomen  o , y con todos los mancebos Cretenses que le seguian.

Al ver    Idomen  o , sinti  ron los aliados moverse otra vez    enojo ; pero las palabras de Mentor sosegaron el fuego que iba    dar una llamadara.    En qu   nos detenemos ? les dixo.    Porqu   no vamos    dar cumplimiento    esta santa alianza , de la qual ser  n testigos los dioses , y ser  n defensores ? Ellos hagan venganza , si algun impio jamas se atreviere    violarla , y los da  os horribles de la guerra , en lugar de oprimir    los pueblos fieles    inocentes , caigan en la cabeza de aquel perjuro soberbio y ex  crable , que despreciare las leyes de esta santa amistad. Sea abominado de los dioses y de los hombres : nunca goce del fruto de su perfidia : vengan las furias infernales

excite in his breast everlasting rage and despair ! let him perish , without hope of burial ; let his limbs be the prey of vultures and of dogs ! when he descends to the infernal regions , may the gulph of Tartarus receive him ; and may he there suffer severer torments than those of Tantalus , Ixion , and the Danaides , for ever and for ever. But may this peace rather remain unshaken , like the mountains of Atlas that sustain the skies ! may it be revered by every nation upon the earth , and its blessings descend from generation to generation ! May the names of those who have made it , be held in admiration and love by our latest posterity ! let it stand as a model for every peace that shall be hereafter founded upon equity and good faith ! and let all nations that desire to secure happiness by unanimity , follow the example of the people of Hesperia ! »

Idomeneus , and the rest of the princes , then ratified the peace , upon the condition that had been proposed , by an oath ; and twelve hostages were interchanged between them. Telemachus , by his own choice , was one of those given by Idomeneus ; but the allies would not consent that Mentor should be another ; insisting that he should remain with Idomeneus , that he might answer for his conduct , and superintend his council , till his engagements should be perfectly fulfilled. An hundred heifers as white as snow , and an hundred bulls of the same colour , having their horns gilt and adorned with garlands of flowers , were then sacrificed between the camp and the city. The bellowing of the victims that fell under the sacred knife , resounded from the neighbouring hills ; their blood flowed in a smoking torrent on every side ; and the most exquisite wines were poured abundantly in libations to the gods ; the aruspices consulted the entrails , still panting with the remains of life ; and the priests burnt an incense upon the altar , which rose in a cloud of fragrance , and perfumed all the plain.

In the mean time , the soldiers on both sides forgot that they had been enemies , and began to entertain each other with their adventures : they resigned themselves to a pleasing relaxation after their labours , and

en las más espantosas figuras á hacerle dar en furor y en desesperacion : caiga muerto sin esperanza de sepultura : quede su cadáver en presa á los perros y aves carniceras , y sea para siempre atormentado en el profundo abismo mas cruelmente que Tántalo , Ixion y las hijas de Danae. Pero ántes sea esta paz firme y estable como el monte Atlante , que sostiene al cielo : manténganla todos estos pueblos , y perciban sus frutos de generacion en generacion. Los nombres de aquellos que la habrán jurado sean con amor y veneracion celebrados de nuestros últimos nietos. Esta paz , fundada en la justicia y en la buena fé , sea el modelo de todas las paces que se harán en lo por venir entre todas las naciones del mundo ; y todos los pueblos que quieran ser dichosos , volviendo á establecer la amistad de unos con otros , imiten á los pueblos de la Hesperia.

Despues de estas razones Idomenéo , y los otros Reyes juraron la paz , segun las condiciones ya establecidas. Diéronse de una , y otra parte los rehenes. Telémaco quiso ser uno de los que dió Idomenéo ; pero los coligados no pudieron consentir en que se comprendiera Mentor en aquel número , porque quisieron que se quedara al lado de Idomenéo , para asegurarse de su proceder , y del de sus consejeros hasta la execucion entera de las cosas que habia prometido. Sacrificáronse entre la ciudad , y el ejército cien terneras blancas como la nieve , y otros tantos toros del color mismo , con los cuernos dorados y enramados de flores. Oíanse hasta las montañas vecinas resonar los bramidos de las víctimas , que caian al sagrado cuchillo de los sacerdotes : corria la sangre reciente por todas partes : para las libaciones se vertia con abundancia un exquisito vino : los adivinos-examinaban atentamente las entrañas de las víctimas , que estaban aun palpitando , y se quemaba sobre las aras el incienso del sacrificio que formaba una espesa nube , y hinchia la campaña de buen olor.

Les soldados de entrambas partes , dexando en este tiempo de mirarse con malos ojos , empezaban á razonar entre sí , y contarse unos á otros las cosas que les habian acaecido ; y ya se recobraban de los trabajos

tasted the sweets of peace by anticipation. Many of those who had followed Idomeneus to the siege of Troy, recollected their acquaintance in the soldiers of Nestor, with whom they had fought in the same cause : they embraced each other with great affection ; and mutually related all that happened to them , after they had laid the magnificent city , that was the glory of Asia , in ruins ; they laid themselves down upon the grass , crowned themselves with flowers , and rejoiced over the wine which had been brought in large vases from the city , to celebrate the blessings of the day.

During this scene of cheerfulness and amity, Mentor cried out, as by a sudden impulse, « Henceforth, O ye kings and leaders ! these assembled nations, although disguised by various names, and governed by different chiefs, shall be one people ! thus do the gods, who love the creatures of their power, delight to become the band of union between them. What is the race of man, but one family widely scattered upon the earth ? All men by nature are brothers, and should be mutually endeared by a brother's love : accursed be those impious barbarians who seek for glory in the kindred blood, which differs but in name from their own.

War, indeed, is sometimes necessary ; but the necessity of war, is the reproach of man. Let ambitious royalty no more pretend, that war is to be desired as the means of glory ; for nothing can be glorious that is inhuman. He that would acquire glory at the expence of humanity, is a monster, and not a man ; nor can true glory be thus acquired : glory is nothing more than the radiance of virtue ; and the virtue of a prince, is moderation and benevolence. The incense of adulation may be offered to the vanity and the folly of a tyrant ; but even those who offer it, confess, in the secret language of their heart, that glory is less deserved in proportion as it is dishonestly sought. He ought to be lightly esteemed of men, by whom men are so lightly esteemed, that, to gratify a brutal vanity, he will deluge the earth with their blood. Happy is the prince, who loves his people, and is beloved by

pasados y gustaban ántes de tiempo la suavidad amable de la paz. Muchos de los que habian seguido á Idomenéo en el asedio de Troya, conocieron á los de Nestor que habian militado en la misma guerra. Abrazábanse con ternura, y se contaban alternadamente lo que les aconteció despues que destruyéron aquella soberbia ciudad, que era adorno de toda la Asia. Ya se echaban sobre la yerba, se coronaban de flores, y bebían el vino, que en grandes vasos se sacaba de la ciudad, para solemnizar un dia tan venturoso.

Inopinadamente volviéndose Mentor á los principales, les dixo: De hoy en adelante, ó caudillos, que aquí os habeis juntado baxo diversos nombres y diferentes gefes, seréis un solo pueblo. De esta suerte los dioses amantes de los hombres que han criado, quieren ser el perpetuo lazo de su perfecta concordia. Todo el linage humano no es mas que una sola familia esparcida sobre la tierra: todos los pueblos son de verdad hermanos, y deben como tales amarse. ¡Ay de los impíos, que buscan una cruel gloria en la sangre de sus hermanos, que es sangre propia suya!

La sangre es á las veces necesaria, es verdad; pero es vergüenza grande del género humano, que en ciertas ocasiones la guerra sea inevitable. No digais, reyes, que debe desearse para conseguir honra: no se encuentra la gloria sino dentro los terminos de la humanidad. No es hombre, sino un monstruo de soberbia, quien prefiere su gloria á los dictámenes de la humanidad, ni alcanzará jamas sino una gloria falsa; porque la verdadera gloria se halla tan solamente en la moderacion y bondad. Podrán bien adularle por contentar su desvariada ambicion; pero siempre en secreto se dirá de él, quando se quiera hablar sinceramente: Tanto ménos ha merecido gloria, quanto la deseó mas con injusta pasion. Los hombres no le deben tener estima; habiendo él hecho de ellos tan poco aprecio, y habiendo derramado su sangre tan pródigamente con soberbia brutal. Dichoso aquel Rey, que ama su pue-

them; who has confidence in his neighbours, and whose neighbours have confidence in him; who is so far from making war against them, that he prevents their making war against each other; and who can excite envy in foreign states, only by the happiness which he diffuses through his own.

Let your assemblies, then, O ye powers of Hesperia, be frequent: let all the princes that are now present, meet at least once in three years, to confirm the present peace by a reiterated vow; to repeat your mutual promises, and deliberate upon your common interests. While you possess the plenty of this delightful country, united by the bands of peace, you will at home be glorious, and abroad invincible. Discord only, that infernal fury, who ascends from hell to torment mankind, can interrupt the felicity which is designed you by the gods. »

« Our readiness to conclude a peace, » replied Nestor, « is a sufficient testimony, that we have been far from engaging in a war from vain glory, or with an unjust design of aggrandizing ourselves at the expence of our neighbours. But what can be done, when, among the princes that surround us, there is one who acts by no law but his own interest, and loses no opportunity of invading the dominions of others? Do not imagine, that I am now speaking of Idomeneus; for, to him, I no longer impute such a character: our danger now arises only from Adrastus the king of the Daunians. This tyrant despises the gods: and believes, that all the people upon earth are born only to contribute to his glory, by the most abject servitude; he does not desire subjects, to whom he would stand in the double relation of king and father: he desires only slaves and worshippers, and has directed divine honours to be paid him. The blind caprice of fortune has hitherto prospered his undertakings. We were hastening to attack Salentum, that we might suppress a power in its infancy, likely to become formidable, and be at liberty to turn our whole force against Adrastus, who is already a powerful enemy.

blo, y que es de él estimado : qué confia en sus vecinos, y sus vecinos confían en él : que en vez de hacerles guerra, impide que ellos la hagan los unos á los otros ; y que hace á las naciones extrangeras que envidien á sus súbditos el tenerle por Rey.

Tened cuidado pues de juntaros de quando en quando, ó vosotros que gobernais las poderosas ciudades de Hesperia, haced de tres en tres años una general asamblea, en que intervengan todos los Reyes que aquí se hallan presentes, á renovar con nuevo juramento la liga, á confirmar la amistad prometida, y á exáminar todos los negocios comunes. Miéntas tengais union, tendréis dentro de este hermoso pais la paz, la gloria y la abundancia, y fuera seréis siempre invencibles. No hay quien pueda turbar la felicidad que os preparan los dioses sino sola la discordia, salida del infierno para atormentar á los hombres sin uso de razon.

De la facilidad, respondió Nestor, con que hacemos la paz, veis quan léjos estamos de querer hacer guerra, ó por deseo de una gloria vana, ó por una injusta codicia de engrandecernos en perjuicio de los pueblos de nuestros vecinos. ¿Pero qué puede hacerse, quando se viere cerca de un príncipe violento, que no reconoce otras leyes que las de su propio interes, y que no pierda alguna ocasion de ocupar las tierras de los estados de otros? No creais que hablo ya de Idomenéo, no : ya no tengo de él esta opinion. Es Adrasto, Rey de los Daunos, de quien todo lo debemos temer. El desprecia á los dioses, y cree que no han nacido todos los hombres del mundo, sino para servir con su sujecion de acrecentar su gloria. No quiere tener súbditos, para haber de tratarles no menos como padre, que como Rey : quiere tener esclavos, quiere tener idólatras, de que se haga adorar como á deidad. Hasta ahora la ciega fortuna se ha mostrado propicia á sus mas injustas empresas. Nosotros nos dábamos priesa de venir á asaltar á Salento, para desenredarnos del mas flaco de nuestros enemigos, que no se hallaba aun bien pertrechado ; porque poco ha habia venido á hacer pie sobre esta rivera, para volver despues nuestras armas

He has taken several towns from our allies, and has defeated the Crotonians in two battles. He scruples nothing to gratify his ambition : and if he can crush his enemies, he cares not whether it be by fraud or force : he has amassed great treasures, his troops are well disciplined and inured to war, he has experienced officers, and is well served : he superintends himself whatever is done by his orders; he severely punishes the least fault, and rewards services with great liberality. He sustains and animates his troops by his own courage; and if his conduct was regulated by equity and good faith, he would be a most accomplished prince : but he fears neither the vengeance of the gods; nor the reproaches of conscience; and he considers reputation itself as a mere phantom, by which weak minds only can be influenced. In his estimation, there is no real and substantial good, but the possession of great riches, the power of inspiring terror, and of trampling mankind under foot. His army will very soon enter our dominions : and if we cannot acquire strength to resist him by a general confederacy, all hope of liberty must cease for ever. It is not less the interest of Idomeneus, than of other powers, to oppose this tyrant, who will suffer nothing to be free that this power can enslave. If we should be vanquished, Salentum must fall with us, let us, therefore, united for our common defence without delay. »

While Nestor was thus speaking, they advanced towards the city; for Idomeneus had invited all the kings and principal officers, to pass the night within the walls. »

END OF THE ELEVENTH BOOK,

contra el otro enemigo mas poderoso. El ha tomado ya muchas ciudades de nuestros coligados , y ya los de Croto han perdido contra él dos batallas. Válese de todos los modos de satisfacer su soberbia : maneja igualmente las fuerzas y la astucia , para llegar á oprimir sus contrarios : ha juntado grandes tesoros : son sus milicias bien disciplinadas y practicas en la guerra , y son sus capitanes experimentados : él está bien servido : está con continua atencion observando él propio los procederes de aquellos que obran por órden suyo : castiga ásperamente las faltas mas pequeñas , y remunera liberalmente los servicios que se le hacen : anima su valor y mantiene al de todas sus tropas , y seria un perfecto Rey , si ajustara su proceder con la buena fé y la justicia. Mas no tiene temor á los dioses , ni a los remordimientos de su conciencia propia : ni aun hace aprecio alguno de la propia reputacion , y la mira como á una fantasma , que debe enfrenar solo á los ánimos débiles. No tiene por bien firme , y de estable sino la ventaja de tener grandes riquezas , ser temido , y atropellar á los demas hombres. Bien presto se hara ver su ejército dentro de nuestras tierras ; y si la confederacion de tantas gentes no nos pone en estado de poder resistirle , no nos queda esperanza de nuestra libertad. Igualmente que nuestro , es tambien interes de Idoménéo hacer oposicion á este vecino , que no puede sufrir que haya algun pueblo libre entre los confinantes de su reyno. Si nosotros quedáramos vencidos , amenazaria á Salento la misma desventura. Démonos prisa pues en prevenirle todos de acuerdo.

Hablaba así Nestor , y se iban acercando á la ciudad porque habia rogado á los Reyes Idoménéo , que con los principales capitanes entraran á pasar en ella la noche.

FIN DEL LIBRO UNDECIMO.

TELEMACHUS.

BOOK XII.

ARGUMENT.

NESTOR, in the name of the allies, demands succours of Idomeneus against their enemies the Daunians. Mentor, who is desirous to establish proper regulations for the internal government of Salentum, and to employ the people in agriculture, finds means to satisfy them with a hundred noble Cretans, under the command of Telemachus. After their departure, Mentor proceeds to a minute examination of the city and the port; and having acquainted himself with every particular, he prevails upon Idomeneus to institute new principles of government and commerce; to divide his people into seven classes, distinguishing them with respect to their rank and quality by different habits: to retrench luxury and unnecessary arts, and to employ the artificers in husbandry, which he brings into just reputation.

THE allies had now pitched their tents; and the field was covered with rich pavilions of all colours, in which the weary Hesperians resigned themselves to sleep. In the mean time, the princes and their retinue having entered the city, were struck with astonishment, to see so many magnificent buildings, which had risen in so short a time; a city of which so formidable a war had retarded neither the growth nor the decoration.

They admired the wisdom and vigilance of Idomeneus who had founded so splendid a kingdom; and concluding that the confederacy against the Daunians would acquire great strength by the accession of such an ally, they invited him to come into it. Idomeneus thought it reasonable to comply, and promised them troops.

But as Mentor was perfectly acquainted with all that was necessary to render a kingdom flourishing, he had reason to believe, that the power of Ido-

TELEMACO.

LIBRO XII.

SUMARIO.

ENTRA Idomenéo en la liga. Mentor da á solas á Idomenéo saludables consejos. Va Telémaco á la guerra contra Adrasto. Antes de partirse recibe de Mentor varios documentos necesarios á un Príncipe, para portarse bien en la guerra. Mentor, habiéndose quedado en Salento, da á Idomenéo algunas reglas seguras para gobernar bien su pueblo. Le enseña el modo de labrar una casa cómoda, sana y desembarazada. Le hace ver la necesidad de la agricultura, describe la vida pacífica de un rústico.

ENTRE tanto el ejército aliado levantaba sus tiendas, y ya estaba cubierta la campaña de ricos pavellones de diversos colores: baxo de cuyo abrigo esperaba el soldado endurecido la quietud del sueño, para repararse con ella de las fatigas pasadas. Luego que entraron los Reyes con su acompañamiento en la ciudad, se mostraron maravillados de que en tan poco tiempo se hubieran podido acabar tan soberbias fábricas, y que los embarazos de una tan grande guerra no hubieran impedido el aumento de aquella poblacion que lo empuzaba á ser embelleciéndose á una misma mano.

Fués de admiracion la prudencia, y la vigilancia de Idomenéo, que habia fundado un tan hermoso Reyno; y concluyéron todos, que hecha con él la paz, se harian los aliados muy poderosos, si él entraba en la liga contra los Daunose. Propusiéronle esta alianza, y él no pudo excusar tan justificada propuesta, y prometió sus tropas.

Mas como sabia Mentor lo que era necesario para hacer á un estado poderoso, conoció, que las fuerzas de Idomenéo no podian ser tan crecidas en realidad,

meneus was not so great in reality as in appearance ; he, therefore, took him aside, and addressed him to this effect :

« You see that our endeavours have not been unsuccessful : we have secured Salentum from destruction, but you only can raise her to glory : the government of the people depends upon you ; and it is your task to emulate the wisdom of Minos, and shew that you are worthy of your descent. I continue to speak freely to you, supposing that you love truth and despise flattery. While these princes were praising your magnificence, I could not but reflect in silence upon your temerity. »

At the word temerity, Idomeneus changed countenance ; his eyes sparkled, his cheeks glowed, and he was upon the point of interrupting Mentor by expressions of resentment. « I see, » says Mentor, in a voice that was modest and respectful, though not faltering or irresolute, « that the word temerity, has given you offence, and I confess, that if it had been used by any other than myself, your displeasure would have been just ; for there is a respect due to kings ; and they have a jealous sensibility, which even those who reprove them should be careful not to wound. To them, the voice of truth is sufficiently displeasing, however gentle the terms : but I hoped, that you would have permitted me to speak of your faults without a studied softness of expression ; that you would have indulged me in my design of accustoming you to hear things called by their names, and of teaching you to discover what others think, when their respect suppresses their thought : if you would not resign yourself to voluntary deception, you must always conceive more than is said, when the subject is to your disadvantage. As to myself, I am ready to soften my expressions, if they must be softened : but it would surely be more for your interest, that a man absolutely neutral in your affairs, without interest, connexion, or dependance, should, when he speaks to you in private, speak plain. No other will ever dare to do it ; you will be condemned to see truth imperfectly ; you will be a stranger to her face, for she will never appear before you but in a gaudy veil. »

como le eran en la apariencia. Tomóle pues á solas , y habló de este modo :

Vos veis , que no os han sido inútiles nuestros cuidados. Salento se ha librado del infortunio que le amenazaba : á ninguno otro toca sino á vos levantar hasta el cielo su gloria , y igualar la prudencia de vuestro avuelo Minos en el gobierno de vuestros vasallos. Proseguiré en hablaros con libertad , suponiendo que es vuestro gusto , y que abominais de toda adulacion. Mientras que alababan los Reyes vuestra magnificencia , estaba yo pensando entre mí mismo en la temeridad de vuestro proceder.

A tales voces mudó Idomenéo de rostro , turbáronsele los ojos , púsose colorado , y poco le faltó que no interrumpiera á Mentor , mostrandole su indignacion. Esta voz de temeridad , le dixo Mentor con un tono modesto y reverente, pero esforzado y libre, os ofende: ya lo percibo. Qualquiera otro , fuera de mí , la hubiera usado sin razon ; porque importa respetar á los Reyes , y aun reprehendiéndoles , tratar con resguardo su delicadeza : oféndeles bastante la verdad por sí misma , sin añadirle terminos demasiado fuertes. Pero creí , que podriais sufrir que yo os hablára sin endulzar con palabras la severidad de las cosas , para hacerlos conocer vuestro error. Mi intencion ha sido de acostumbraros á oír llamar las cosas por sus nombres , y á comprehender , que quando otros os den consejo en orden á vuestro proceder , jamas se atreverán á deciros todo lo que hay discurrido : y que será menester , sino quereis quedar engañado , que siempre entendais mucho mas de lo que os digan ellos , respeto de las cosas que seran en vuestro menoscabo. Yo por mí vengo bien en suavizar mis palabras segun vuestra necesidad. Pero os importa que un hombre desinteresado y que no supone nada os hable en secreto con dureza. Ningun otro se atreverá jamas á hablaros de este modo : y no vereis á la Verdad sino de medio lado , y disfrazada con adornos que la encubran.

Idomeneus, whose first impatience already subsided, began now to be ashamed of his weakness: « You see, » said he to Mentor, « what constant flattery will do. I owe to you, the preservation of my new kingdom; and there is no truth, that I shall not think myself happy to hear from your lips. Remember, with pity, that I have been long tainted with the poison of adulation; and that, even in my misfortunes, I was still a stranger to truth. Alas! no man has ever loved me enough, to say what he thought I should be displeased to hear. »

The heart of Idomeneus melted as he spoke, the tears started to his eyes, and he embraced Mentor with great tenderness. « It is with the utmost regret, » said Mentor, « that I give you pain; but I am constrained; I cannot betray you, by concealing truth: could you act otherwise in my place? If you have always been deceived till now, it was because you chose to be deceived; it was because you feared to find sincerity in those that were to give you counsel. Have you sought those who were most disinterested, those who were most likely to contradict you? Have you preferred such as were least devoted to your pleasure, and their own interest; such as appeared most capable of opposing your passions when they were irregular, and your sentiments when they were unjust? When you have detected a flatterer, have you banished him from your presence; and withdrawn your confidence from those whom you suspected? Have you done what those do who love truth, and deserve to know it? Have you now fortitude, to suffer the humiliation of hearing those truths by which you are condemned? Let me make the experiment.

I must again tell you, that what has gained you so much praise, deserves censure. While you are surrounded with enemies, and yet a foreigner in the country, you dream only of adorning your new city with magnificent buildings: to this, as you have confessed to me, you have sacrificed your repose, and

En esto Idomenéo recobrado de su primera repentina cólera mostró vergüenza de su delicadeza precedente. Vos veis, dixo á Mentor, qué efectos causa la costumbre de ser siempre adulado. Quisiera el bien de mi Reyno : no hay alguna verdad que no tenga á fortuna el poderla escuchar de vuestra boca ; pero compadecéos de un Rey avenestado de la adulacion , y que aun en sus desgracias no ha podido encontrar uno siquiera , que tuviera valor bastante para decirle la verdad. No , no he hallado jamas persona , que me haya profesado amor bastante para querer disgustarme , diciendome la verdad por entero.

Diciendo estas palabras , le viniéron las lágrimas á los ojos , y abrazó tiernamente á Mentor. Entonces aquel sabio auciano le dixo : Veome constreñido con dolor mio á decir os algunas cosas de desazon : mas tal vez os pudiera hacer traicion , si no os manifestara la verdad. Figuraos que os halleis en mi lugar , y confesaréis que os la debo decir. Si hasta ahora habeis estado en error , es la razon porque vos mismo lo habeis querido estar , y porque habeis temido los consejos ajenos. ¿ Habeis buscado los hombres ménos aplicados á sus intereses , y los mas dispuestos á haceros contradiccion ? ¿ Habeis tenido cuidado de escoger los menos solícitos en daros gusto , los mas desinteresados en su proceder , y mas capaces en condenar vuestras pasiones é injustos pensamientos ? Quando habeis encontrado aduladores , ¿ los habeis separado de vuestro lado ? ¿ Os habeis desconfiado de ellos ? No , no ; no habeis hecho lo que hacen los que aman la verdad , y son merecedores de conocerla. Veamos si teneis ahora ánimo para obrar mejor , y dexaros humillar de la verdad que condena vuestras acciones.

Decia , pues , que lo que os hace dar tantos elogios , no es digno sino de vituperio. Mientras que teniais á fuera tantos enemigos que amenazaban á vuestro Reyno , no aun bien asegurado ¿ pensabais dentro de vuestra nueva ciudad sino en hacer edificios magníficos ? Esto es lo que os ha costado tantas malas noches ,

in this you have exhausted your wealth. You have thought neither of augmenting your people, nor of cultivating the country: does not your power depend wholly upon a numerous people, and a country highly cultivated for their subsistence? A long peace is necessary, at the first establishment of a state, for increasing the people; and you ought, at present, to think of nothing but agriculture and legislation. You have been hurried, by a vain ambition, to the brink of a precipice; and to gain the appearance of being great, you have sapped the foundations of substantial grandeur. Let these errors be corrected without delay; suspend all these works of idle magnificence; renounce the pomp that will reduce your new city to ruins; release your people from fatigue, and endeavour to facilitate marriage, by procuring them plenty. Remember that you are a king, only in proportion as you have subjects to govern, and that the measure of your power, is not the extent of your dominions, but the number of their inhabitants. Let your territory be fertile, however small; and let it swarm with people at once well disciplined and industrious; and if you can make these people love you, you will be more powerful, more happy, and more glorious, than all the conquerors that have ravaged the earth.»

«What shall I do then,» said Idomeneus, «with respect to the princes that have solicited me to join the confederacy? Shall I confess to them the weakness of my state? It is, indeed, true, that I have neglected agriculture and even commerce, notwithstanding the uncommon advantages of my situation; I thought only of making a magnificent city! but must I, then, my dear Mentor, dishonour myself in the presence of so many kings, by acknowledging my indiscretion? If it must be done, I will do it; and I will do it readily; whatever mortification I suffer: for you have taught me, that a king is born for his people, come»

como ya lo habeis confesado vos mismo. Habeis consumido vuestras riquezas; no habeis pensado en aumentar vuestro pueblo, ni en cultivar las fértiles campiñas de esta rivera? No importaba atender á estas dos cosas, como á dos fundamentos esenciales de vuestra potencia, tener muchos hombres hábiles, y las campiñas bien cultivadas para alimentarlos? Necesitaban estos principios de una larga paz; para ayudar á la multiplicacion de vuestro pueblo: no debíais pensar sino en la agricultura, y en el establecimiento de las leyes mas sabias. Os ha impelido una vana ambicion hasta la margen del precipicio; y á fuerza de querer parecer grande, habeis casi arruinado vuestra verdadera grandeza. Daos prisa en reparar estas faltas: haced cesar todas vuestras grandes labores: renunciad al fausto, que arruinaria vuestra nueva ciudad: dexad respirar vuestros pueblos en paz; y atended á hacerles que abunden de aquellas cosas que les son necesarias, para facilitarles el modo de hacer sus matrimonios. Sabed, que no sois Rey, sino en tanto que teneis pueblos que gobernar, y que vuestra potencia se debe mensurar, no por la dilatacion de las tierras que poseeis, sino por el número de los hombres, que habitan esas mismas tierras, y estaran atentos y cuidadosos de obedeceros. Tened en vuestro poder una mediana tierra, aunque sea de una moderada extension: llenadla de innumerable gente trabajadora y bien instruida: haced que esa gente os tenga amor, y sereis mas feliz, mas poderoso, mas glorioso que todos los conquistadores, que destruyen á tantos Reynos.

¿De qué manera pues, replicó Idomenéo, me deberé contener con estos Reyes? ¿Confesareis la debilidad de mis fuerzas? Ello es así, que he descuidado de la agricultura, y tambien del comercio, que me es tan facil en esta costa; y que no he pensado, sino en hacer una ciudad magnífica y de gran pompa. ¿Deberé acaso, Mentor, deshonrarme á mí mismo en el congreso de tantos Reyes, descubriendoles mi impotencia? Si importa así, yo lo quiero hacer, lo executaré francamente, sin detenerme en ello por todo lo que me haya de costar una declaracion tal: ya que me habeis enseñado, que un verdadero Rey, que ha na-

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owes himself wholly to them, and ought always to prefer the public welfare to his own reputation. »

« This sentiment, » said Mentor, « is worthy the father of his people ; and for this, and not for the vain magnificence of your city, I reverence you as a king worthy of the name. But your honour must be preserved, even for the advantage of your state ; leave this to me : I will make these princes believe, that you are engaged to establish Ulysses, if he is yet living, or his son if he is dead, in the government of his kingdom, and drive the suitors of Penelope from Ithaca by force. They will at once perceive that this cannot be effected without numerous troops ; and will, therefore, readily consent that you shall at first afford them but a slight assistance against the Daunians. »

At these words, Idomeneus appeared like a man suddenly relieved from a burden that was crushing him by its weight : « This, indeed, » said he, « my dear Mentor, will preserve my reputation, and the honour of this rising city, by hiding its weakness from the neighbouring states. But with what appearance of truth can it be pretended, that I am about to send troops to Ithaca, for the establishment of Ulysses, or at least of Telemachus, while Telemachus himself is engaged in war against the Daunians ? »

« Be in no pain about that, » replied Mentor ; « I will say nothing that is false. The vessels that you are fitting out to establish your commerce, will sail to the coast of Epirus, and will effect two purposes at once : they will bring back the foreign merchants, whom high duties have driven from Salentum ; and they will seek intelligence of Ulysses : if he is still living, he cannot be far from the seas that divide Greece from Italy ; and it has been confidently reported, that he has been seen among the Phæacians. But if Ulysses should not be found, your vessels will render an important service to his son ; they will spread terror, with the name of Telemachus, through all Ithaca and the neighbouring country, where it is now believed that he is dead as well as his father : the suitors

cido para su pueblo, y que por él se debe dar á sí propio, ha de anteponer á la propia reputacion la salud de su Reyno.

Este dictámen es digno de un padre de sus vasallos, dixo Mentor: en esta bondad de ánimo, y no en la magnificencia de vuestra ciudad, os reconozco con el corazon de verdadero Rey; pero es menester resguardar vuestro pundonor por el mismo interes de vuestro Reyno. Dexadme obrar á mí: yo quiero hacer creer á estos Reyes, que os hallais obligado á restituir á Ulises, si todavia vive, á su Isla de Itaca, ó á lo menos á su hijo Telémaco, y que quereis echar de ella por fuerza á todos los amantes de Penélope. No les será difícil el comprehender, que esta guerra requiere muchas tropas; y asi consentirán en que no les deis luego mucha gente, sino un débil socorro contra los Daunos.

Pareció Idomenéo como un hombre, que se alivia de un peso que le oprime, oyendo estas razones. Sabeis, dixo, amigo carisimo, en qué aprecio me tienen y sabeis tambien qual es la reputacion de esta nueva ciudad, cuya debilidad ocultaréis á todas las naciones vecinas. Pero cómo será probable el decir que he resuelto enviar tropas á Itaca para restituir á Ulises, ó á lo menos á su hijo Telémaco, mientras Telémaco mismo se ha obligado á ir á la guerra contra los Daunos?

No os dé pena ninguna, respondió Mentor: no dixe cosa que no sea verdad. Los baxeles que enviais para establecer el comercio, irán á las costas de Epiro, y harán en un camino dos mandados: uno será atraer á esta playa los mercaderes extraños, que alejan de Salento las sobrado excesivas imposiciones; y el otro, procurar alguna noticia de Ulises. Si aun vive, no puede estar distante de los mares, que separan la Grecia de la Italia; y hay quien afirma, que se ha dexado ver en la Grecia. Quando ya no quede esperanza de hallarle, harán vuestros baxeles á su hijo un especial servicio, porque extenderán en Itaca, y en todos los paises vecinos el terror del nombre de Telémaco; que es tenido por muerto, como su padre. Pasmaránse los pretendientes de Penélope, oyendo que está para restituirse, con la ayuda de un poderoso aliado: no os

of Penelope will be struck with astonishment to learn that he is returning with the forces of a powerful ally: the Ithacans will be awed into obedience: and Penelope will be encouraged to persist in her refusal of a second husband. Thus will you render service to Telemachus, while he is rendering service to you by taking your place in the confederacy against the Daunians. »

« Happy is the king, » said Idomeneus, « that is favoured with such counsel; but doubly happy is he, who feels its importance, and improves it to his advantage! A wise and faithful friend is better than a victorious army: yet kings too often withdraw their confidence from the faithful and the wise, of whose virtue they stand in awe, and resign themselves to flatterers, of whose perfidy they have no dread. I fell myself into that fatal error; and I will relate to you the misfortunes, that I drew upon myself, by a connexion with a false friend, who flattered my passions, in hopes that, in my turn, I should gratify his. »

Mentor found it easy to convince the allies, that Idomeneus ought to take charge of the affairs of Telemachus, while Telemachus was, on his behalf, engaged in his confederacy; and they were well satisfied to have among them the son of the great Ulysses, with a hundred Cretan youth, whom Idomeneus had put under his command; these young men were the flower of the nobility, whom Idomeneus had brought from their native country, and whom Mentor had advised him to send in this expedition. « It is necessary, » said he, « to increase the number of your people during peace: but, to prevent a national insensibility to military honour, and ignorance of military art, it is proper to send the young nobility into foreign service: this, by connecting the idea of a soldier's character, with that of noble descent and elevated rank, will be sufficient to kindle and keep alive a national sense of glory, a love of arms, a patience of fatigue, a contempt of death, and even an experimental knowledge of the art of war. »

rán los pueblos de Itaca á sacudir el yugo : consolarase Penélope , y rehusará siempre admitir nuevo esposo. Asi favoreceréis á Telémaco , mientras que él en vuestro lugar se una con los coligados de esta parte de Italia contra los Daunos.

; Afortunado el Rey , exclamó en esto Idomenéo , que es sostenido de tan prudentes consejos ! Mucho mas aprovecha á un Rey el tener un amigo sabio y fiel , que los ejércitos victoriosos. Pero doblado feliz el Rey , que tiene conocimiento de su fortuna , y se sabe aprovechar de él poniendo en obra los discretos consejos que de él recibe ; porque muchas veces sucede , que no se quieren por confidentes los hombres prudentes y virtuosos , cuya virtud se teme , por dar oídos a los aduladores , de quienes no se teme que hagan traicion. Yo mismo he caído en este error : y os contaré todas las desgracias que me han acaecido , por un falso amigo , que lisonjeaba á mis pasiones , esperando que yo igualmente lisonjeara las suyas.

Dió Mentor fácilmente á entender á los Reyes confederados , que Idomenéo habia de encargarse del cuidado de los negocios de Telémaco , en tanto que este iba en compañía de ellos. Contentaronse con tener en su ejército al hijo de Ulises con cien mancebos Cretenses , que le dió Idomenéo para que le siguieran. Eran estos la flor de la nobleza , que habia el Rey conducido consigo desde Creta ; y Mentor le habia aconsejado enviarlos á esta guerra , para que se adiestraran. Conviene , le decia , cuidar en tiempo de paz , de que el pueblo se multiplique ; pero porque no se afemine toda la nacion , ni caiga en la ignorancia del arte militar , importa enviar la nobleza jóven á amaestrarse en las guerras de los extrangeros. Basta esto para tener á toda la nacion en la emulacion de la gloria , en el amor de las armas , en el desprecio de las fatigas y de la muerte misma ; y en suma , para hacer que sean experimentados en el arte de hacer la guerra.

The confederate princes departed from Salentum, well content with Idomeneus, and charmed with the wisdom of Mentor. They were also highly pleased to be accompanied by Telemachus : but Telemachus was overwhelmed with grief, when he came to part with his friend. While the kings were taking their leave of Idomeneus, and vowing to preserve their alliance inviolable for ever, Mentor held Telemachus to his breast in a transport of silent tenderness, and found himself wet with his tears : « I have no joy, » said Telemachus, « in the search of glory ; I feel no passion but grief, at our separation ; and think that the fatal time is returned, when the Egyptians forced me from your arms, to a distant country, without hope of seeing you again. »

Mentor soothed him with words of gentleness and comfort : « This separation, » said he, « is very different from that in Egypt ; it is voluntary, it will be short, and it will be rewarded with glory. You must love me, my son with less tenderness, and more fortitude : you must accustom yourself to my absence, for the time is coming, when we must part for ever ! and you should learn what is right, rather from the inspiration of wisdom and of virtue, than from the presence of Mentor. »

The goddess, who was concealed under the figure of Mentor, then covered Telemachus with her ægis, and diffused within him the spirit of wisdom and foresight, of intrepid courage and gentle moderation, virtues which so rarely meet.

« Go, » said she, « wherever you are called by duty, without considering whether it be dangerous or safe : a prince may avoid danger, with less disgrace, by declining a war, than by keeping aloof in battle. The courage of him, who commands others, should never be doubtful : if it is desirable that a nation should preserve its prince, it is still more desirable that the prince should preserve his honour. Remember, that the commanders of others should also be their example, and excite the courage of his army by a display of his own. Fear no danger, then, O Telemachus ! but rather perish in the combat, than bring your va-

Partieron de Salento los Reyes coligados satisfechos de Idomenéo, y pasmados de la prudencia de Mentor. Iban llenos de gozo, porque conducian consigo á Telémaco; pero él no pudo contener su dolor, quando hubo de dexar al amigo. Miéntas que los Reyes confederados se despedian, y juraban á Idomenéo que mantendrian con él una amistad perpetua, estrechando Mentor á Telémaco entre sus brazos, se bañada en lágrimas del amable jóven. Yo, decia Telémaco, soy insensible á la alegría de ir á adquirir gloria, ni me siento movido sino es del dolor solo de nuestra separacion. Paréceme tener aun á los ojos aquel tiempo infeliz, en que me arrancáron de vuestro seno los Egipcios, y me alejáron de vos, sin dexarme esperanza de recobraros.

Mentor respondió á estas palabras con dulzura por consolarlo. He aquí, le dixo, una separacion muy diversa: esta es voluntaria, y tambien será breve. Vais en busca de una victoria: por eso importa; hijo mio, que ameís con afecto ménos tierno y mas alentado. Acostumbraos á estar lejos de mí, porque no me tendréis siempre vecino. Conviene, que la prudencia y virtud, mas que no la presencia de Mentor, os inspiren lo que debeis obrar.

Diciendo estas palabras, la diosa disfrazada debaxo del aspecto de Mentor, le cubrió con su escudo, y le infundió en el animo un espiritu de prudencia y de providencia, un valor intrépido, y una moderacion apacible, que raras veces se encuentran juntas.

Andad, proseguia en decirle Mentor, en medio de los mayores peligros todas las veces que sea conveniente que vayais. Un Príncipe se deshonra á sí mismo, aun mas con excusar los riesgos de la guerra, que no yendo á ella jamas. No es bien que pueda ponerse en duda el esfuerzo de aquel que manda; y si es necesario á un pueblo conservar su cabeza y su Rey, le es aun mas necesario el no verlo en la incierta reputacion de valiente. Acordaos de que debe ser el que manda el modelo de todos los demas; y que su exemplo debe infundir el ánimo á todo el Ejército. Poned pues en peligro vuestra vuida, Telémaco, y morid mas

lour into question. The sycophants, who would appear most forward in persuading you not to expose yourself to danger, when danger is become necessary, would be the first to whisper that you wanted courage, if you should take their advice.

Do not, however, incur danger unnecessarily : courage is a virtue only in proportion as it is directed by prudence ; without prudence, it is a senseless contempt of life, a mere brutal ardour. Precipitate courage secures no advantage : he who, in danger, does not possess the perfect recollection of his mind, is rather furious than brave ; and is superior to fear, only as he is incapable of thought : in proportion as he is free from perturbation, he is timid ; and if he does not fly, is in confusion : his mind is not at liberty to dispense proper orders, nor to seize and improve the transient but important opportunities, which arise in battle, of distressing the enemy, and doing service to his country. If he has the ardour of a soldier, he has not the discernment of a commander ; neither has he that courage which is requisite in the private man ; for the private man ought to preserve, in the heat of action, such presence of mind, as is necessary to understand and obey the orders of his officer. He that exposes himself rashly, interrupts the order and discipline of the troops, gives an example of pernicious temerity, and frequently exposes the whole army to irretrievable disadvantages. — Those who prefer the gratification of their own idle ambition, to the security of a common cause, deserve rather punishment than reward.

« Be careful, my dear son, to avoid precipitation even in the pursuit of glory ; for glory is to be acquired, only by waiting in patient tranquillity for the moment of advantage. Virtue is more revered, in proportion as she appears to be quiet, placid, and unassuming. As the necessity of exposing yourself to danger increases, so should your expedients, your foresight, and your courage. Remember also to avoid whatever may draw upon you the envy of your asso-

presto peleando , que sujetaños á la malignidad de los que podrian dudar de si os faltaba el esfuerzo. Aquellos aduladores que os aconsejaren con mas calor que no os expongais á los peligros en las ocasiones necesarias , serán desde luego los primeros que digan en secreto que no teneis ánimo , como hallen facilidad para deteneros en semejantes lances.

Pero acordaos tambien de no ir en busca de los peligros , quando no lo requiera la utilidad. El valor no podria ser virtud , sino en quanto le regla la prudencia : de otra forma es un loco desprecio de la vida , y un furor brutal. De un precipitado valor no se puede esperar cosa cierta. Quien no es en los peligros dueño de sí propio , ántes es furioso que guapo : tiene necesidad de estar fuera de sí para vencer al temor , porque no le puede vencer , quando su corazon está en su estado connatural. Entónces , si no huye , por lo ménos se turba y pierde el uso libre de la razon , que ha menester para aprovecharse , en los lances de derrotar al contrario ó de servir á la patria. Si tiene todo el ímpetu de soldado , no tiene la discrécion de capitán. A mas de que tambien está sin el verdadero corage de un sencillo soldado porque debe el soldado guardar en la batalla aquella prontitud de ánimo , y aquella moderacion de que se necesita para obedecer. Quien temerariamente se mete en los peligros , altera el órden , y disciplina de la milicia , da exemplo de la temeridad , y hace freqüentemente exponerse á graves desventuras todo el ejército. Los que anteponen á la seguridad de la causa comun su desvanecida ambicion , son dignos de castigo y no de recompensa.

Mirad pues bien , hijo querido mio , que no busqueis la gloria con sobrada impaciencia : el modo verdadero de encontrarla es , guardar con sosiego la oportunidad favorable. La virtud tanto mas se hace respetar , quanto se muestra mas sencilla , mas modesta , y mas contraria de toda ostentacion faustosa. Segun se va aumentando la necesidad de meterse en el riesgo , conviene tambien tener pronto nuevos partidos de providencia y osadía. Acordaos á mas de esto , que no es

ciates, and never let the success of another excite envy in you : give praise liberally to whatever shall merit praise : yet never commend a mixed character, indiscriminately ; display the good with pleasure, hide the bad, and let it not be remembered but with compassion.

« Never decide in the presence of old commanders, who have all the experience that you want : hear their opinions with deference, consult them, solicit the assistance of the most skilful, and never be ashamed to attribute your best actions to their counsel. Lastly, never listen to any discourse which tends to make you jealous or mistrustful of other chiefs. Speak your mind to them with confidence and ingenuity. If you think their behaviour to you has been exceptionable, open your heart at once, and tell them why you think so : if they are capable of feeling the noble generosity of this conduct, they will be delighted with it ; and you will find no difficulty in obtaining from them all the concessions that you can reasonably expect. If their insensibility is so gross, that the rectitude of this behaviour is lost upon them, you will, at least, have gained an experimental knowledge of what may be expected from them ; you will order matters so, that you may have no more contest with them during the war ; and you will have nothing to reproach yourself with on their account. But, above all, be careful never to drop the least hint of your displeasure, before the sycophants who are ever busy to sow jealousy and division.

« I will remain here, » continued Mentor, « to assist Idomeneus in taking those measures which are indispensibly necessary for the good of his people ; and for completing the correction of those faults, which evil counsellors and flatterers have seduced him to commit, in the establishment of his new kingdom. »

At this slight censure of Idomeneus, Telemachus could not help expressing some surprise at his conduct, not without some mixture of contempt. But Mentor checked him in a tone of severity : « Do you wonder, » said he, « that the most estimable of men are men still ; and, among the innumerable snares and

menester adquirirse, ó hacerse cargo de la envidia de ninguno; y al contrario, no seais zeloso de los felices sucesos de los demas. Sed vos mismo el primero en alabar todo lo que merece alabanza; pero alabad con discrecion: y diciendo plácidamente el bien, ocultad el mal sin alguna pena.

No decidais cosa alguna delante de los capitanes antiguos, que tienen toda aquella experiencia que no podeis vos tener: oidles con respeto, aconsejaos con ellos: rogad á los mas entendidos que vos, que os alicienen; y no os avergonceis de atribuir á sus documentos todo lo mejor que hicieréis. Finalmente, no presteis oidos á todos aquellos discursos, con que se quieren excitar en vos contra otros capitanes la desconfianza y los zelos. Hablad con ellos con confianza, y con claridad; y si creéis que ácia vos han faltado en alguna obligacion, descubrid con ellos el pecho, y mostradles abiertamente todas vuestras razones. Si son capaces de conocer la nobleza de este proceder, os ganareis su benevolencia, y recibiréis de ellos todo aquel favor, que justamente podréis esperar: y al contrario, si no son razonables, ni quieren ajustarse á vuestra opinion, conoceréis para vos lo que tienen de injusto, ó de intolerable: os hareis cauto, para no ponerlos en adelante á semejante prueba, hasta concluir la guerra, y no tendreis de que arrepentiros. Pero principalmente nunca digais á ciertos aduladores, que van sembrando discordias, los motivos que os persuadiereis tener de quejaros de los capitanes del ejército en que os hallareis.

Yo me quedaré aquí, prosiguió Mentor, para ayudar á Idomenéo en la necesidad que tiene de trabajar por el bien de sus súbditos; y para que acabe de enmendar los yerros en que le hicieron caer los perversos consejos de sus aduladores, quando fundó su nuevo reyno.

Entonces no pudo Telémaco dexar de manifestar á Mentor que extrañaba y aun despreciaba de algun modo la conducta de Idomenéo. Pero se lo reprehendió Mentor con un tono severo: ¿Os admirais acaso que los hombres mas apreciables sean todavía hombres, y dexen ver algun resto de las debilidades hu-

perplexities which are inseparable from royalty, discover some traces of human infirmity? In Idomeneus, the ideas of pomp and magnificence have been planted and nurtured from his youth; and where is the philosopher, who, in his place, would always have been superior to flattery? He has, indeed, suffered himself to be too much influenced by those in whom he confided; but the wisest kings, whatever is their precaution, are often deceived. A king cannot do every thing himself: he must, therefore, have ministers, and in these ministers he must confide: besides, a king cannot know those that surround him, so well as they are known by others; for in his presence they never appear without a mask; and every artifice that cunning can devise, is practised to deceive him. Alas! my dear Telemachus, your own experience will confirm this truth but too well. We never find either the virtues or abilities in mankind, that we seek; and with whatever diligence and penetration we study their characters, we are every day mistaken in our conclusions. We can never avail the public of all the virtues and abilities that we find; for the best men have their prejudices, their aversions, and their jealousies; they will seldom give up any opinion, however singular, or renounce any foible, however pernicious.

The greater the dominion, the more numerous must be the ministry; for there will be more that the prince cannot do himself, and, therefore, more that he must do by others: and the greater the number of those to whom he must delegate his authority, the more liable he is to be somewhere mistaken in his choice. He who is a severe censor of kings to-day, would to-morrow govern much worse than those whom he condemns; and if he was intrusted with the same power, would commit the same faults, and many others much greater. A private station, if a man has some degree of natural eloquence, conceals defects, displays shining talents to advantage, and makes him appear worthy of all the posts that he does not fill: but authority brings a man's abilities to a severe test, and discovers great faults, which the shades of obscurity concealed.

manas , en medio de las innumerables trampas y obstáculos inseparables de la corona ? Es verdad que se crió Idomenéo con unas ideas de fausto y altivez : ¿ Pero quien será el filósofo que pudiera defenderse contra la adulacion , si se hallase en la situacion de aquel Rey ? Es verdad que dió demasiado crédito á los que tuvieron su confianza : pero los reyes mas prudentes son engañados muchas veces , por mas precauciones que tomen para evitarlo. Un Rey no puede pasarlo sin ministros que le alivien y de quienes el se fie , pues no lo puede hacer todo. Además , un rey conoce menos que los particulares á los hombres que le rodean : en su presencia siempre estan disfrazados , y se agota toda suerte de artificios para engañarle. Ay ! querido Telémaco , demasiado lo experimentaréis. No se encuentran en los hombres las virtudes ni los talentos que se buscan. Por mas que se quiera profundizar su conocimiento , cada dia sale errada la cuenta. Y aun nunca se logra el sacar enteramente de los hombres mejores el partido que se necesitaria para el bien público. Tienen ellos sus porfias , sus incompatibilidades , sus zelos. Raras veces se les persuade ó mejora.

Quanto mas numerosa es la nacion á que se trata mandar , tanto mayor número de ministros se necesita para hacer el rey por ellos lo que por si mismo no puede : y quantos mas son los depositarios de la autoridad , tanto mas expuesto se halla á engañarse en su eleccion. Hay hombre que hoy critica sin piedad á los reyes , y mañana gobernaria peor que ellos , cometiendo los mismos yerros , con otros infinitamente mayores , si se le confiará el mismo poder. La condicion privada , quando se halla unida con un poco de talento para hablar con gracia , cubre todos los defectos naturales , realza los méritos que deslumbran , y hace que un hombre parezca digno de todos los empleos que no tiene. Pero solo el mando acrisola todos los talentos , descubriendo grandes defectos.

Greatness resembles those glasses, which represent every object larger than it is; every defect seems to expand in an elevated situation; where things, in themselves small, are, in their consequences, great, and the slightest faults excite vehement opposition. A prince is an individual, whose conduct the whole world is perpetually employed to watch, and disposed to condemn. He is judged with the utmost rigour by those who can only guess at his situation, who have not the least sense of the difficulties that attend it; and who expect, that, to answer their ideas of perfection, he should be no longer a man. A king, however, can be no more; his goodness and his wisdom are bounded by his nature: he has humours, passions, and habits, which it is impossible he should always surmount; he is continually beset by self-interest and cunning; he never finds the assistance that he seeks; he is perpetually led into mistakes, sometimes by his own passions, and sometimes by those of his ministers; and can scarce repair one fault before he falls into another. Such is the situation even of those kings who have most wisdom, and most virtue.

The longest and best reign is too short, and too defective, to correct, at the end, what has undesignedly been done amiss in the beginning. Such evils are inseparable from royalty; and human weakness must sink under such a load. Kings should be pitied and excused: should not they be pitied who are called to the government of an innumerable multitude, whose wants are infinite, and who cannot but keep every faculty of those who would govern them well upon the stretch? Or, to speak freely, are not men to be pitied, for their necessary subjection to a mortal like themselves! A god only can fulfil the duties of dominion. The prince, however, is not less to be pitied than the people; a weak and imperfect creature, the governor of a corrupt and deceitful multitude! »

« But, » said Telemachus, with some vivacity,
 « Idomeneus has already lost Crete, the kingdom of

La grandeza es semejante á ciertos vidrios que aumentan el tamaño de todos los objetos. Parece que se acrecientan todos los defectos en aquellos puestos elevados, en donde las menores cosas tienen graves consecuencias, y las menores faltas ocasionan terribles resultas. El mundo entero esta ocupado en observar á un solo hombre á cada hora, y en juzgarle con todo rigor: los que lo hacen no tienen conocimiento alguno del estado en que el se halla; no conocen sus dificultades, y exigen de el tanta perfeccion, que no quieren ya que sea hombre. Un rey por bueno y sabio que sea es todavía hombre: su ingenio tiene sus limites, como tambien su virtud. Igualmente tiene su humor, pasiones y hábitos de que no es enteramente dueño: esta sitiado por gentes interesadas y llenas de artificio: el no halla los socorros que busca. Padece cada dia alguna equivocacion, sea por sus pasiones, sea por las de sus ministros; y apenas ha enmendado un yerro, quando cae en otro. Tal es la condicion de los reyes mas ilustrados y virtuosos.

Los reynados mas largos y mejores son demasiado breves para enmendar al fin lo que, al principio, aun sin quererlo se echó á perder. Trae consigo la corona todas estas miserias: se dobla la debilidad humana baxo una carga tan pesada. Es menester dolerse de la suerte de los reyes, y perdonarles. ¿No se les debe tener lástima de que tengan que mandar á tantos hombres cuyas necesidades son infinitas, y que dan tanto que hacer á los que se toman el trabajo de gobernarlos? Hablando con franqueza: desdichados de los hombres, pues tienen necesidad de ser mandados por un rey, que no es mas que un hombre que en todo se les parece: pues se necesitarian dioses para mejorar á los hombres. Pero tambien, no siendo los Reyes mas que hombres, es decir, débiles é imperfectos, no se les debe tener menor lástima, pues tienen que mandar á tan innumerable multitud de hombres tan corrompidos como engañadores.

Respondió con viveza Telémaco: por su culpa perdió Idoménéo el reyno que tenían sus avuelos en Creta;

his ancestors, by his indiscretion : and he would have lost Salentum, which he is founding in its stead, if it had not been preserved by your wisdom. » « I confess, » replied Mentor, « that Idomeneus has been guilty of great faults ; but, look through Greece, and every other country upon earth, and see whether among those that are most improved, you can find one prince, that is not, in many instances, inexcusable. The greatest men have, in their natural disposition, and the constitutional character of their minds, defects which sometimes mislead them ; and the best men are those, who have fortitude to acknowledge these defects, and make conscience of repairing the mischiefs that they produce. Do you imagine that Ulysses, the great Ulysses your father, who is considered as an example by all the sovereigns of Greece, is without weakness and imperfection ? If he had not been favoured with the perpetual guidance and protection of Minerva, how often would he have sunk under the dangers and difficulties to which the wanton malignity of fortune has exposed him ? How often has the goddess restrained and corrected him, that he might walk on, in the path of virtue, till he arrived at glory ? And when you shall see him reign, in all the splendour of his excellence in Ithaca, do not expect to find him perfect. He has been the admiration of Greece, of Asia, and of all the islands of the sea, notwithstanding his failings, which, among the shining wonders of his character, are forgotten. If you, also, can thus admire him, and by a happy emulation of his wisdom and his virtue, transplant them into your own bosom, you will need no other happiness or honour.

« Accustom yourself not to expect, from the greatest men, more than human nature can effect : it is common for the inexperience and presumption of youth to indulge a severity of judgment, which leads them to condemn the characters that they ought to imitate, and produces an hopeless indocility. You ought not only to love, respect, and imitate your father, notwithstanding his imperfections ; but you ought also very highly to esteem Idomeneus, notwithstanding such parts of his character and conduct as I have

y, faltándole vuestros consejos, el hubiera perdido otro en Salento. Confieso, respondió Mentor, que el cayó en grandes yerros; pero buscad en la Grecia, y en todos los demas países mas civilizados, á un rey á quien no se hayan de perdonar muchas faltas en que haya incurrido. Tienen los hombres mas grandes en su temperamento y genio defectos que los arrastran: los mas dignos de alabanza son los que tienen bastante ánimo para conocer y enmendar sus yerros. ¿Pensais acaso que Ulises, el grande Ulises vuestro padre, que es el modelo de los reyes de Grecia, no tenga tambien sus flaquezas y defectos? Si Minerva no le hubiera guiado paso á paso, ¡ Quantas veces no hubiera cedido á los peligros y estorbos en que se burló de el la fortuna! ¡ Quantas veces le detuvo ó enderezó Minerva, para guiarle siempre á la gloria por el camino de la virtud! No esperéis siquiera, quando le vereis reynar con tanta gloria en Itaca, hallarle sin imperfeccion alguna; pues sin duda se las notareis. A pesar de todos sus defectos, le admiraron Grecia, Asia, y quantas islas tiene el mar: pues todo lo cubren mil prendas divinas. Demasiada dicha tendreis en poder admirarle tambien, poniendo un continuo estudio en imitarle como modelo.

Acostumbrádos, ó Telémaco, á no esperar de los hombres mas grandes sino lo que es-capaz de hacer la humanidad. No teniendo experiencia la juventud, se entrega á una crítica presuntuosa que le inspira fastidio y aun aborrecimiento para quantos modelos tiene que seguir, y la precipita en una indocilidad incurable. Vos debeis no solo amar, respetar é imitar á vuestro padre, aunque no sea perfecto: pero tambien apreciar con alta estimacion á Idomenéo, á pesar de las faltas que noté en el. El es naturalmente sincero, rec-

shewn to deserve censure. He is naturally sincere, upright, equitable, kind, and munificent; his courage is perfect; and he spontaneously detests fraud, the moment he perceives it: all his external qualifications are great, and suitable to his rank: his ingenuous disposition to acknowledge his errors, his mild and patient endurance of my severe reprehension, his fortitude against himself, to make public reparations for his faults, and thus to place himself above the censure of others; are indubitable testimonies, that he has true greatness of mind. — There are some faults, from which a man of little merit may be preserved, by good fortune, or by good counsel; but it is only by an effort of the most exalted virtue, that a king, who has been so long seduced by flattery, can correct his faults; it is more glorious thus to rise, than never to have fallen.

The faults of Idomeneus are such, as almost all kings have committed; but his reparation is such, as has been made by none. As for myself, while I reproved I admired him: for he permitted my reproof: and do you admire him also, my dear Telemachus! it is less for his reputation, than your advantage, that I give you this counsel. »

By this discourse, Mentor made Telemachus sensible, that he who judges with severity of others, endangers his own virtue; especially if they are distressed by the perplexities and difficulties of government. « But it is now, » said he, « time to part. Farewell! I will wait here, my dear Telemachus, for your return. Remember, that those who fear the gods, have nothing to fear from men! You will be exposed to extreme danger; but remember, that thou will never be forsaken by Minerva! »

At this moment, Telemachus became conscious to the presence of the goddess; and he would have known that it was the very voice of Minerva that had inspired him with fortitude, if she had not immediately recalled the image of Mentor to his mind, by addressing him in the character she had assumed: « Remember,

to , justo , liberal , benéfico : su valentia es perfecta : el aborrece la fraude quando la conoce y sigue con libertad la senda á que le inclina su corazon. Sus talentos exteriores todos son grandes y correspondientes al puesto en que se vé colocado. Su sencillez en confesar sus equivocaciones ; su mansedumbre , su paciencia en dexarme decirle las cosas mas duras , el ánimo con que enmendó sus yerros , pugnando contra si mismo , y haciendose asi superior á quantas críticas se le podian hacer , manifiestan una alma verdaderamente grande. Puede un hombre muy mediano precaver ciertas faltas , sea por fortuna , sea por consejos agenos ; pero solo una virtud extraordinaria puede lograr que enmiende sus yerros un rey engañado por la adulacion durante tan largo tiempo. Mas glorioso es volverse así á levantar , que no haber caído nunca.

Ha caído Idomeneo en las mismas faltas quē casi todos los reyes. Pero casi ninguno de estos hace para enmendarlas lo que el acaba de hacer : por lo que toca á mi , no podia dexar de admirarle en los mismos momentos en que el me permitia contradecirle. Admiradle vos tambien , ó querido Telémaco , en la inteligencia que os doy este consejo no tanto para conservar la fama de aquel Rey , como para vuestra utilidad propia.

Con este discurso , hizo sentir Mentor á Telémaco quan peligroso es el ser injusto dexandose llevar por una crítica rigurosa contra los demas hombres , y mayormente contra los que tienen á su cargo las dificultades y trabajos del gobierno. Despues le dixo : yá es tiempo que os marcheis ; ádios. Aqui os aguardaré , mi querido Telémaco. Acordaos , que aquellos que temen á los dioses , no tienen cosa que temer de los hombres. Vos os veréis en extremos peligros ; mas sabed que Minerva nunca os abandonará.

Apénas le hubo acabado de hablar , le pareció á Telémaco , que sentia la presencia de Minerva ; y aun hubiera advertido , que ella era quien le hablaba , para llenarle de confianza , si no hubiera la diosa avivado en él la idea de Mentor , con decirle estas voces : No os olvideis , hijo mio , de los afanes que he pade-

said she, my son, the care which I took, during your infancy, to render you as wise and as brave as your father; do nothing that is unworthy of his example, or of my precepts. »

The sun had already risen, and tinged the summit of the mountains with gold, when the confederate kings departed from Salentum, and returned to their people. The troops that had been encamped round the city, now began to march under their leaders : their pikes rose like a forest on every side ; their shields glittered in the sun ; and a cloud of dust ascended to the sky. The kings were conducted to the plain by Idomeneus and Mentor, who attended them to a considerable distance from the city. At last they parted, having given and received reciprocal testimonies of sincere friendship. And the allies being now acquainted with the true character of Idomeneus, which had suffered so much by misrepresentation, had no doubt, but that the peace would be lasting : they had, indeed, formed their judgment of him, not from his natural sentiments, but from the pernicious counsel of flatterers, which he had implicitly taken.

When the army was gone, Idomeneus led Mentor into every quarter of the city. « Let us see, » said Mentor, « how many people you have, as well in the city as the country ; let us number the whole ; and let us also examine how many of them are husbandmen. Let us inquire how much corn, wine, oil, and other necessaries, your lands will produce one year with another : we shall then know, whether it will yield a surplus for foreign trade. Let us also see how many vessels you have, and how many sailors to man them, that we may be able to judge of your strength. » He then visited the port, and, went on board every vessel ; he informed himself of the several ports to which they traded, what merchandize they carried out, and what they brought back in return ; what was the expence of the voyage ; what were the loans of the merchants to each other, and what trading societies were established among them, that he might know whether

cino en vuestra niñez, para haceros tan sabio y valeroso, que llegarais al fin á igualaros con vuestro padre; y no hagais cosa alguna indigna de los grandes exemplos que de él os ha dado, y de las máximas de virtud en que he trabajado para instruiros.

Iba el sol despuntando, y doraba las cimas de los montes, quando los Reyes salieron de Salento, para volver al lugar donde estaban sus tropas. Ellas pues acampadas en el contorno de la ciudad, empezaron su marcha guiadas de sus cabos. Veíase de todas partes el acero de las picas enarboladas: desalumbraba los ojos el resplandor reflexo de los escudos, y se iba levantando por el ayre, á embargar la luz una nube obscura de polvo. Idomenéo junto con Mentor, acompañaba en la campaña á los Reyes aliados, que se alejaban de los muros de la ciudad. Finalmente se separaron despues de haberse dado muchas muestras de verdadera amistad de una y otra parte; y no quedó mas duda á los coligados de que duraria la paz, habiendo conocido el buen pecho de Idomenéo, que á ellos se les habia figurado muy otro de lo que era; porque se juzgaba de él, no ya por sus dictámenes naturales, sino por los consejos lisongeros é injustos, en cuyos brazos se habia dexado á si propio.

Habiéndose partido el ejército, Idomenéo conduxo á Mentor por todos los barrios de la ciudad, y á la campaña vecina; veamos, decia Mentor, quantos hombres teneis tanto en la ciudad como en el campo: hagamos el censo. Exáminemos quantos labradores hay entre estos, veamos quanto producen vuestras tierras, en los años medianos, en trigo, vino, azeyte, y otras cosas utiles: por este medio sabremos si da bastante la tierra para alimentar á todos sus habitantes, y si produce ademas bastante superfluo para hacer un comercio util con los paises extrangeros. Contemos, le dixo, vuestros baxeles: exáminemos atentamente su calidad: veamos quantos marineros teneis que poner en ellos, sea para mantener la guerra, sea para el comercio de vuestros súbditos, porque de aquí se debe hacer juicio de vuestra potencia. Fué á ver el puerto: quiso entrar en cada baxel: se informó de él adonde iba á traficar cada uno, de las mercade-

their articles were equitable, and faithfully observed. He also inquired, what was the risk of the several voyages, and to what losses the trade was exposed, that such restrictions might be made as would prevent the ruin of the merchants, who sometimes, from too eager a desire of gain, undertake what they are not in a condition to accomplish.

He ordered that bankruptcy should be punished with great severity, because it is generally the effect of rashness and indiscretion, if not of fraud : he also formed regulations, by which bankruptcies might easily be prevented : he obliged the merchants to give an account of their effects, their profits, their expenses, and their undertakings, to magistrates established for this purpose : he ordered that they should never be permitted to risk the property of another ; nor more than half their own : that they should undertake, by association, what they could not undertake singly : and that the observance of the conditions of such association, should be enforced by severe penalties. He ordered also that trade should be perfectly open and free : and, instead of loading it with imposts, that every merchant, who brought the trade of a new nation to the port of Salentum, should be entitled to a reward.

These regulations brought people in crowds from all parts, and the trade of Salentum was like the flux and reflux of the sea : riches flowed in upon it with an impetuous abundance, like wave impelling wave : every thing was freely brought in and carried out of the port ; every thing that was brought was useful, and every thing that was carried out, left something of greater advantage in its stead. Justice presided over the port, which was the centre of innumerable nations, with inflexible severity ; and from the lofty towers, that were at once its ornament and defence, freedom, integrity, and honour, seemed to call together the merchants of the remotest regions of the earth : and these merchants, whether they came from the shores of the east, where the sun rises from the parting waves

rías que conducía de ida y vuelta, del gasto que era preciso hacer en el viage, de los préstamos que los mercaderes se hacían unos á otros, de sus compañías; para saber si eran justas, y fielmente observadas; y finalmente se informó de los peligros de naufragar, y de las otras desgracias del comercio, para prevenir la ruina de los mercaderes, que por ansia de la ganancia frecuentemente emprenden cosas sobre sus fuerzas.

Quiso que se castigara severamente á los fallidos; porque los que no han delinquido en mala fe, casi siempre son reos de temeridad. A un mismo tiempo dió reglas para obrar de manera que fuera facil el no fallir jamas. Estableció magistrados, á quienes los mercaderes debieran dar cuenta de todos sus capitales, del útil, de la expensa, y de los negocios que emprendian. Por dichas leyes no se les permitia arriesgar las haciendas de otros, ni tampoco podian arriesgar sino la mitad de las suyas. A mas de esto, entraban en compañía para aquellos negocios que no podian manejar solos, y era inviolable la regla de las compañías, por el rigor de las penas impuestas para aquellos que no las guardasen. Quedaba por lo demas entera la libertad del comercio. En lugar de alterarle con las imposiciones, se prometia premio á todos los mercaderes, que pudieran atraer á Salento el comercio de alguna nueva nacion.

De esta suerte acudieron allí bien presto los pueblos de todas las naciones del mundo. Era semejante el comercio de aquella ciudad al fluxo y refluxo del mar. Le entraban los tesoros, como venian las ondas impelidas con brio las unas de las otras: todas las cosas se traian allí, y de allí salian todas las cosas: utilizábase quanto entraba; y quanto salia dexaba en su salida otras riquezas en su lugar. La justicia presidia en el puerto segura en medio de tantas naciones, y parecia que la libertad, la buena fé, y la sinceridad llamaban de lo alto de aquellas soberbias torres á los mercaderes de paises mas apartados. Cada uno de los negociantes, ahora viniera de las riveras de Oriente, donde el sol sale cada dia de entre las ondas, ahora se partiera al otro grande mar, donde el mismo planeta, fatigado

to begin the day ; or from that boundless ocean , where , wearied with his course , he extinguishes his fires ; all lived together in Salentum , as in their native country , with security and peace.

Mentor then visited the magazines , warehouses , and manufactories , of the interior part of the city . He prohibited the sale of all foreign commodities that might introduce luxury or effeminacy : he regulated the dress and the provisions of the inhabitants of every rank ; and the furniture , the size , and ornaments of their houses . He also prohibited all ornaments of silver and gold : « I know but one thing , » said he to Idomeneus , that can render your people modest in their expences , the example of their prince : it is necessary that there should be a certain dignity in your appearance ; but your authority will be sufficiently marked by the guards , and the great officers of your court , that will always attend you . As to your dress , be content with the finest cloth of a purple colour : let the dress of your principal officers be of cloth equally fine : and let your own be distinguished only by the colour , and a slight embroidery of gold round the edge ; different colours will serve to distinguish different conditions , without either gold or silver , or jewels , and let these conditions be regulated by birth.

« Put the most ancient and illustrious nobility in the first rank : those who are distinguished by personal merit , and the authority of office , will be content to stand second to those who have been long in possession of hereditary honour . Men who are not noble by descent , will readily yield precedence to those that are , if you take care not to encourage a false opinion of themselves , by raising them too suddenly and too high : and never fail to gratify those with praise , who are modest in prosperity . No distinction so little excites envy , as that which is derived from ancestors by a long descent .

« To stimulate virtue , and excite an emulation to serve the state , it will be sufficient to reward pu-
de

de la carrera, se va á apagar sus rayos, vivia sossegado y seguro en Salento, como en su patria.

Quanto á lo interno de la ciudad, visitó Mentor todos los almacenes, todas las tiendas de los artesanos, y todas las plazas ó lugares públicos. Prohibió todas las mercancías de países extraños, que podian introducir la afeminacion y fausto: regló los trajes, las comidas, los muebles, el espacio y el adorno de las casas para todas las condiciones de personas: dispuso un bando contra todos los adornos de plata y oro, y dixo así á Idomeneo: Yo no sé sino un solo modo de hacer modesto á un pueblo en el esplendor; y es, que le deis el exemplo vos mismo. Es de necesidad, que tengais cierta extrinseca magestad; pero se distinguirá lo que basta vuestra autoridad, con las guardias y principales ministros que os ceñiran. Contentaos con un vestido de finísima grana: los primeros en el estado, despues de vos, llévedo de la misma lana, y no se diferencie de ellos el vuestro sino solo en el color, y en una leve guarnicion ó recamado de oro. Los diferentes colores de los vestidos servirán para distinguir las condiciones varias de las personas, sin necesitar para eso de oro, de plata, ni de piedras preciosas. Reglad las sobredichas condiciones, segun la diferencia de los nacimientos.

Poned en el primero lugar los que tienen nobleza mas antigua y mas esclarecida. Los que tengan el mérito y la antigüedad de los oficios, estarán bien contentos, siguiendo á aquellas antiguas é ilustres familias que poseen los honores largo tiempo ha. Los hombres que no tienen la misma nobleza, les cederán á esos de buena gana, con tal que no los acostumbreis á desconocerse á sí mismos en una sobrado alta, y sobrado pronta fortuna; y con tal que alabeis la modestacion de aquellos, que en la prosperidad son modestos. La distincion ménos arriesgada á la envidia es aquella que viene de una larga serie de ascendientes.

En quanto á la virtud, bien presto vuestros súbditos se animarán á seguirla, y serán muy zelosos de

blic merit with honorary distinctions, a crown or a statue, which may be made the foundation of a new nobility, for the children of those to whom they are decreed.

« The habit of persons of the first rank, may be white, bordered with a fringe of gold; they may also be distinguished by a gold ring on their finger, and a medal of gold impressed with your image hanging from their neck. Those of the second rank may be dressed in blue, with a silver fringe, and be distinguished by the ring without the medal. The third rank may be dressed in green, and wear the medal without either fringe or ring. The colour of the fourth class may be a full yellow: the fifth a pale red: the sixth a mixture of red and white; and the seventh, a mixture of white and yellow.

Dresses of these different colours will sufficiently distinguish the freemen of your state into seven classes. The habit of slaves should be dark grey: and thus each will be distinguished according to his condition, without expence; and every art which can only gratify pride, will be banished from Salentum. All the artificers, which are now employed so much to the disadvantage of their country, will betake themselves to such arts as are useful, which are few; or to commerce, or agriculture. No change must ever be suffered to take place, either in the quality of the stuff, or the form of the garment; men are, by nature, formed for serious and important employments; and it is unworthy of them to invent affected novelties in the clothes that cover them, or suffer the women, whom such employment would less disgrace, to fall into an extravagance contemptible and pernicious. »

Thus Mentor, like a skilful gardener, who lops from his fruit trees the useless wood, endeavoured to retrench the parade that insensibly corrupts the manners, and to reduce every thing to a frugal and noble simplicity. He regulated even the provisions, not of the slaves only, but those of the highest rank: « What a shame is it, » said he, « that men of exalted stations should place their superiority in eating such food as effeminates the mind, and subverts the constitu-

servir al estado; como deis coronas, y estatuas á las buenas acciones; y que con esto sea un principio de nobleza para los hijos de aquellos que las hicieron.

Las personas del primer orden, despues de vos, vestirán de blanco, con la guarnicion del vestido de plata y oro, y llevarán un anillo de oro. Las del segundo vestirán de azul con guarnicion de plata, y llevarán dicho anillo. Las del tercero vestirán de verde sin guarnicion; pero deberán llevar á la vista cierta medalla. Las del quarto vestirán de amarillo. Las del quinto de roxo claro, ó de color de rosa. Las del sexto de color de flor de lino. Y las del séptimo, que serán las últimas de la plebe, de un color entre amarillo y blanco.

Estos son los vestidos para las siete diversas condiciones de personas libres: los esclavos irán vestidos de color ceniciento obscuro. Así sin nada de gasto, cada uno segun su condicion se distinguirá, y se aventarán de Salento todas las artes, que no sirven sino de mantener el fausto. Todos los artesanos, que estaban empleados en todas esas artes nocivas, ó se ocuparán en otras necesarias, que formarán un corto número; ó se darán al comercio, ó exercitarán la agricultura. No se permitirá jamas mudanza alguna, ó en la materia, ó en el adorno de los vestidos; porque es cosa vergonzosa, que hombres destinados á una vida seria y noble, pasen tiempo para inventar afectados aliños, y que aun permitan á sus mugeres, en quienes estos divertinientos serian de ménos rubor, den nunca en tal exceso.

Semejante Mentor á un diestro jardinero, que corta de los árboles frutales las ramas inútiles, procuraba quitar el fausto inútil, que echaba á perder las costumbres, y reducía todas las cosas á una noble y parca llaneza. Dió reglas á este modo, prescribiendo la cantidad de las comidas, así á los ciudadanos, como á los esclavos. ¿Qué vergüenza, decía, que los hombres mas elevados hagan consistir su grandeza en los guisados, con que afeminan los ánimos, y arruinan

tion ! They ought to value themselves for the regulation of their own desires, for their power of dispensing good to others, and for the reputation which the exercise of private and public virtue will necessarily procure. To the sober and temperate, the simplest food is always pleasant; and the simplest food only can produce the most vigorous health, and give at once capacity and disposition for the purest and the highest enjoyments. Your meals should consist of the best food; but it should always be plainly dressed: the art of cookery is the art of poisoning mankind, by rendering the appetite still importunate, when the wants of nature are supplied. »

Idomeneus easily conceived that he had done wrong, in suffering the inhabitants of this new city to corrupt and effeminate their manners, by violating the sumptuary laws of Minos; but Mentor further convinced him, that the revival of those laws would produce little effect, if the king did not give them force by his example: he, therefore, immediately regulated his own table, where he admitted only plain food, such as he had eaten with other Grecian princes at the siege of Troy, with the finest bread, and a small quantity of the wine of the country, which was generous and well flavoured. No man dared to murmur at a regulation which the king imposed upon himself; and the profusion and false delicacy of the table were given up without a struggle.

Mentor suppressed also two kinds of music; the soft and effeminate strains which dissolve the soul into languishment and desire; and the Bacchanalian airs, that transport it with causeless, tumultuous, and opprobrious joy: he allowed only that sacred and solemn harmony, which, in the temples of the gods, kindles devotion, and celebrates heroic virtue. To the temples also he confined the superb ornaments of architecture, columns, pediments, and porticos: he gave models, in a simple but elegant style of building, for houses, that would contain a numerous family, on a moderate extent of ground, so designed, that they

continuamente la salud de los cuerpos? Deben ellos poner su felicidad en su moderacion, en emplear la propia autoridad á beneficio de los demas, y en la reputación que les deben proporcionar las buenas acciones. La templanza de la comida mas llana, es lo mas sabroso; y ella es la que da los placeres mas puros y duraderos, juntamente con la mas robusta salud. Conviene, pues, que no deis lugar en vuestra mesa sino á las viandas mejores, pero dispuestas sin el aderezo de salsas. Es una arte de atosigar los hombres, la de provocarles el apetito mas de lo que á la verdad necesitan.

Comprehendió bien Idomenéo, que habia sido injusto en dexar que los moradores de su nueva ciudad afeminaran y corrompieran sus buenas costumbres, violando todas las leyes de la templanza, que Minos habia establecido. Pero el sabio Mentor le hizo advertir, que las mismas leyes, aunque renovadas, se inutilizarian, si con el propio exemplo no las autorizaba, lo qual no podian tener de otra parte. Al punto Idomenéo regló su mesa: á la qual no admitió sino excelente pan, vino hecho en el pais, que era muy agradable; pero en harto pequeña cantidad, con algunos manjares ordinarios, como los que comia en el sitio de Troya con los otros Griegos. No se encontró ninguno que se atreviera á quejarse de una ley, que el Rey se imponia á sí mismo; y así cada uno se enmendó del exceso y delicadeza de las mesas, á que ya todos se comenzaban á dar.

Quitó Mentor despues la música regalada y mugeril, que viciaba los jóvenes, y condenó tambien la música bácia, que no embriaga ménos, que el vino, y de que se originan las costumbres llenas de furor y desenvoltura. Estrechó todo el uso de la música á la sola celebracion de las festividades de los templos, para cantar en ellos los loores de los dioses y de los héroes, que han dado raro exemplo de virtudes. No permitió tampoco, sino para los templos, los grandes ornamentos de arquitectura, como son las columnas, los grandes frontispicios y pórticos. Dió algunos modelos de arquitectura llana y gentil, para hacer en

should be at once pleasant and convenient ; that they should have a healthful aspect, and apartments sufficiently separated from each other, that order and decency might be easily preserved, and that they might be repaired at a small expence.

He ordered, that every house above the middling class should have a hall, and a small peristyle, with separate chambers for all the free persons of the family ; but he prohibited, under severe penalties, the superfluous number and magnificence of apartments, that ostentation and luxury had introduced. Houses erected upon these models, according to the size of the family, served to embellish one part of the city at a small expence, and gave it a regular appearance ; while the other part, which was already finished according to the caprice and vanity of individuals, was, notwithstanding its magnificence, less pleasing and convenient. This city was built in a very short time ; because the neighbouring coast of Greece furnished very skilful architects, and a great number of masons repaired thither from Epirus, and other countries, upon the promise, that after they had finished their work, they should be established in the neighbourhood of Salentum, where land should be granted them to clear, and where they would contribute to people the country.

Painting and sculpture were arts which Mentor thought should by no means be proscribed ; but he permitted the practice of them to few. He established a school under masters of an exquisite taste, by whom the performances of the pupils were examined : « There should be no mediocrity, » says he, « in the arts which are not necessary to life ; and consequently, no youth shall be permitted to practise them, but such as have a genius to excel, others were designed by nature for less noble occupations, and may be very usefully employed in supplying the ordinary wants of the community. Sculptors and painters should be employed only to preserve the memory of great men, and great actions : and the representations of what-

mediano espacio una casa alegre, y acomodada para una familia compuesta de muchas personas; de modo que estuviera bien situada, y de disposicion saludable: que sus apartamentos no estuvieran sujetos los unos á los otros: que el orden y el aseo se conservara en ellos facilmente; y que mantenerla fuera de poco coste.

El quiso que toda casa algo considerable tuviese un salon y un pequeño peristilio, con quartitos para todas las personas libres: pero prohibió con mucha severidad la muchedumbre, y magnificencia de habitaciones. Estos diferentes modelos de casas, según la grandeza de las familias, sirviéron de hermosear con poco gasto una parte de la ciudad, y á hacerla segun arte, quando la otra parte, ya concluida conforme al capricho, y la ostentacion de las personas particulares, tenia á pesar de su magnificencia, disposicion ménos deleitosa y ménos acomodada. Esta nueva ciudad fué edificada en muy breve tiempo, porque la vecina costa de la Grecia proporcionó buenos arquitectos, y se traxo un numero muy crecido de albañiles desde el Epiro, y otros muchos paises, con la condicion de que, despues de acabadas sus obras, se establecerian en las cercanías de Salento, en donde tomarian tierras para cultivarlas, sirviendo ellos para aumentar la poblacion del campo.

Parecióle á Mentor, que el pincel y escultura eran artes, que debian no abandonarse; pero quiso que á pocos en Salento se permitiera aplicarse á esas facultades. Estableció una escuela, en que presidian maestros de exquisito gusto, que examinaban á los marcebos. No es menester, decia, que haya cosa ruin, ni desaprovechada en las artes, que no son necesarias absolutamente; y consiguientemente no deben admitirse para ellas, sino á los jóvenes de un ingenio que promete mucho, y se animen á perficionarlas. Los otros que han nacido para artes ménos nobles, se emplearán con harta utilidad en los ministerios ordinarios de la república. No conviene emplear á los pintores y escultores, sino para conservar la memoria

ever has been achieved by heroic virtue, for the service of the public, should be preserved only in public buildings, or on the monuments of the dead.»

But whatever was the moderation or the frugality of Mentor, he indulged the taste of magnificence in the great buildings, that were intended for public sports, the races of horses and chariots, combats with the cestus, wrestling, and all other exercises which render the body more agile and vigorous.

He suppressed a great number of traders that sold wrought stuffs of foreign manufacture; embroidery of an excessive price; vases of silver and gold, embossed with various figures in bas relief; distilled liquors, and perfumes: he ordered also, that the furniture of every house should be plain and substantial, so as not soon to wear out. The people of Salentum, therefore, who had been used to complain of being poor, began to perceive that they abounded in superfluous riches; but that this superfluity was of a deceitful kind; that they were poor in proportion as they possessed it, and that in proportion as they relinquished it only, they could be rich: «To become truly rich,» said they, «is to despise such riches as exhaust the state, and to lessen the number of our wants, by reducing them to the necessities of virtue.»

Mentor also took the first opportunity to visit the arsenals and magazines; and examine whether the arms, and other necessities of war, were in a good condition: «To be always ready for war,» said he, «is the surest way to avoid it.» He found many things wanting, and immediately employed artificers in brass and iron to supply the defects. Furnaces are immediately built; and smoke and flames ascend in cloudy volumes, like those that issue from the subterranean fires of mount *Ætna*: the hammer rings upon the anvil, which groans under the stroke; the neighbouring shores and mountains re-echo to the sound; and a spectator of these preparatives for war, made by a provident sagacity during a profound peace, might have thought himself in that island, where *Vulcan*

De los hombres grandes, y de sus grandes acciones. En los edificios públicos, ó en los sepulcros, se deben conservar expresiones de todo eso que se haya obrado con extraordinaria virtud en servicio de la patria.

Por lo demas la templanza y moderacion de Mentor no impidieron que él aprobara las grandes fabricas para correr caballos y carros, y para los combates de los luchadores, y los que manejaban el cesto; como ni las que servian á todos los demas exercicios que agilitaban los cuerpos, los hacian diestros y vigorosos.

Quitó un infinito número de mercaderes, que de proposito vendian paños venidos de países distantes, bordados de precio excesivo, vasos de oro y plata, con figuras de dioses, de hombres y animales; y quitó finalmente á los que vendian licores y perfumes. Quiso tambien: que los muebles de cada casa fueran llanos, y hechos de suerte, que pudieran durar largo tiempo. Así que los Salentinos, que altamente se lamentaban de su pobreza, comenzaron á conocer de quantas demasiadas riquezas tenian abundancia; pero esas eran riquezas engañosas, que los hacian pobres; y ellos enriquecian con efecto á proporcion del aliento, que en desnudarse de ellas les asistía. Esto es enriquecer; decian ellos mismos, despreciar semejantes riquezas que arruinan el estado, y disminuir las necesidades, reduciéndolas á no mas que las verdaderas y naturales.

Dióse priesa Mentor en ver los arsenales, y todos los almacenes, para saber si las armas estaban prevenidas, con todo lo demas que es necesario para la guerra; porque, segun decia, siempre es menester estar aparejado para hacer la guerra, por no verse jamás reducido á la desgracia de dexar que se la hagan los otros. Halló; que en todas partes faltaban muchas cosas. Juntáronse luego los oficiales para trabajar, así al hierro, como al acero y alambre. Veíanse fabricar hornos, y levantarse torbellinos de humo y llamas, como aquellos fuegos que de sus entrañas suele vomitar el volcan de Ethna. Resonaba el martillo en los yunques, que gemian heridos de repetidos golpes, extendiéndose el eco á los montes y á las playas vecinas. Se pudiera pensar, que aquella era la isla

animates the Cyclops by his example, to forge thunder for the father of the gods.

Mentor then went with Idomeneus out of the city, and found a great extent of fertile country wholly uncultivated ; besides considerable tracts that were cultivated but in part, through the negligence or poverty of the husbandmen, or the want of spirit, or the want of hands. « This country , » said he to the king, « is ready to enrich its inhabitants , but the inhabitants , are not sufficient to cultivate the country ; let us , then , remove the superfluous artificers from the city , whose professions serve only to corrupt the manners of the people , and let us employ them in fertilizing those plains and hills. It is a misfortune that these men , having been employed in arts which require a sedentary life , are unused to labour ; but we will try to remedy this evil ; we will divide these uncultivated lands into lots among them , and call in the neighbouring people to their assistance , who will gladly undertake the most laborious part of the work , upon condition that they should receive a certain proportion of the produce of the lands they clear : they may afterwards be made proprietors of part of it , and be thus incorporated with your people , who are by no means sufficiently numerous : if they prove diligent and obedient to the laws , they will be good subjects and increase your power. The artisans , whom you shall transplant from the city to the fields , will bring up their children to the labours of rural life ; and the foreigners , whom you have employed , to assist in building your city , have engaged to clear part of your lands ; and become husbandmen : these men , as soon as they have finished the public buildings , you should incorporate with your people ; they will think themselves happy , to pass their lives under a government so gentle as that which you have now established ; and as they are robust and laborious , their example will animate the transplanted artificers with whom they will be mixed , and , in a

donde Vulcano, animando á sus Cíclopes, fabrica los rayos á Júpiter; y con advertidísima providencia se veían todos los aprestos de guerra en una paz tranquilísima.

Salió despues Mentor de la ciudad, acompañado de Idomenéo, y halló un gran trecho de tierras fértiles, que quedaban por cultivar: halló otras, que estaban medio cultivadas por la pobreza y descuido de los labradores, que no teniendo peones, se hallaban tambien sin aliento y sin las fuerzas del cuerpo, de que se necesita para perficionar la agricultura. Viendo Mentor asolada aquella campaña, y volviéndose al Rey, le dixo así: Aquí la tierra no busca mas, que enriquecer á los habitantes; pero faltan habitantes á la tierra. Tomemos pues todos los artesanos superfluos, que hay en la ciudad, cuyos oficios no servirían sino de gastar las costumbres, para hacer que cultiven estos llanos, y juntamente aquellas colinas. Ello es verdad, que es suma desventura, que todos esos, que estan exercitados en artes que quieren una vida sosegada, no se han acostumbrado á la fatiga; pero he aquí el modo de reparar el desorden. Conviene dividir entre ellos las tierras desechadas, y llamar en su ayuda los pueblos vecinos, que hagan baxo su mando el trabajo de mas afan. Haránlo esos pueblos, con tal que se les prometan ciertas convenientes recompensas de los frutos de aquella misma tierra que ellos cultivaren. Podrán tambien poseer despues una parte, y ser incorporados por este medio en nuestra jurisdiccion, que crecerá en gran numero. Con que sean trabajadores y flexibles á las leyes, no tendréis vasallos mejores, y aumentarán la potencia de vuestro estado. Los artesanos de la ciudad, transportados á la campaña, acostumbrarán sus hijos al trabajo, y á la continua fatiga de la vida rústica. Ademas todos los albañiles de país extrangero que trabajan en edificar vuestra ciudad, se han obligado á cultivar parte de vuestros campos abandonados haciendose labradores: incorporadlos á vuestro pueblo, luego que hayan concluido sus tareas en aquella. Serán contentísimos aquellos obreros de obligarse á pasar su vida baxo una domi-

short time, your country will abound with a vigorous race, wholly devoted to agriculture.

« When this is done, be in no pain about the multiplication of your people; they will, in a short time, become innumerable, if you facilitate marriage; and the most simple way of facilitating marriage is the most effectual. All men are naturally inclined to marry; and nothing prevents them from indulging this inclination, but the prospect of difficulty and distress: if you do not load them with taxes, their family will never become a burden; the earth is never ungrateful, but always affords sustenance to those who diligently cultivate it; it refuses its bounty only to those who refuse their labour. Husbandmen are always rich in proportion to the number of their children, if their prince does not make them poor; for the children afford them some assistance, even from their infancy; the youngest can drive the flock to pasture, those that are farther advanced can look after the cattle, and those of the third stage can work with their father in the field. In the mean time the girls assist the mother, who prepares a simple but wholesome repast for those that are abroad, when they return home, fatigued with the labour of the day: she milks her cows and her sheep, and the pails overflow with longevity and health; she brings out her little stores, her cheeses, and her chesnuts, with fruits that she has preserved from decay; she piles up the social fire, and the family gathers round it; every countenance brightens with the smile of innocence and peace; and some rural ditty diverts them; till the night calls them to rest.

He that attended the flock, returns with his pipe; and when the family is got together, he sings them some new song that he has learnt at the neighbouring village. Those that have been at work in the fields, come in with their plough, and the weary oxen that hang down their heads, and move with a slow and

nacion que ahora es tan suave. Como son robustos y laboriosos, servirá su exemplo para incitar al trabajo los artesanos transplantados desde la ciudad al campo, con quienes se hallarán mezclados. De ahí se poblará todo el país de familias robustas, y dadas á la agricultura.

Por lo demas, no tengáis cuidado de la multiplicacion de este pueblo: haráse bien presto infinita, como faciliteis los matrimonios, y es muy llana la forma de facilitarlos. Casi todos los hombres tienen inclinacion á casarse, y no se detienen para ejecutarlo sino por el estorbo de la pobreza. Si no los agravaís de imposiciones, vivirán sin miseria con sus mugeres y hijos; porque la tierra nunca es ingrata, y siempre alimenta con sus cosechas á los que la cultivan, no negando sus frutos, sino es á aquellos que temen emplear su trabajo en ella. Quanto tienen los labradores mayor número de hijos, tanto son mas ricos, si el Príncipe no los hace mendigos; porque sus hijos empiezan á ayudarles desde su mas tierna juventud. Los mas jóvenes llevan á pacer las ovejas: los otros, que son de mayor edad, llevan ya las grandes manadas; y finalmente los mas crecidos trabajan juntamente con el padre. Entre tanto la madre, y todo el resto de la familia, adereza una simple comida, para el marido y sus queridos hijos, que han de volver cansados del trabajo de todo el dia. Ella tiene cuidado de ordeñar las vacas, de las quales, como de fuentes, se vé brotar á arroyos la leche; dispone un grande fuego, entorno del qual toda la familia inocente, y pacífica se recrea á las noches en cantar, hasta que llega el sueño á dar fin á su dulce conversacion. Ella previene el queso, las castañas, y las frutas guardadas con aquella misma frescura, que si en aquel instante se cogieran.

Vuélvese el pastorcillo con su zampoña, y canta las nuevas canciones, que ha aprendido en las casas, vecinas, á la familia junta. Entra con el arado el jornalero, y los bueyes cansados, inclinados los cuellos, andan con paso lento y perezoso, á pesar de la priesa del aguijon que quiere acalorarlos. Todos los

heavy pace, notwithstanding the goad, which now urges them in vain. All the sufferings of labour end with the day : the poppies which , at the commands of the gods , are scattered over the earth by the hand of sleep , charm away every care ; sweet enchantment lulls all nature into peace , and the weary rest , without anticipating the troubles of to-morrow.

Happy , indeed , are these unambitious , mistrustless , artless people , if the gods vouchsafe them a king that disturbs not their blameless joy ; and of what horrid inhumanity are they guilty , who , to gratify pride and ambition , wrest from them the sweet product of the field , which they owe to the liberality of nature , and the sweat of their brow ! In the fruitful lap of nature , there is inexhaustible plenty for temperance and labour : if none were luxurious and idle , none would be wretched and poor . »

« But what shall I do , » said Idomeneus , « if the people that I scatter over this fertile country should neglect to cultivate it ? »

« You must do , » said Mentor , « just contrary to what is commonly done ; rapacious and inconsiderate princes think only of taxing those who are most industrious to improve their lands ; because , upon these , they suppose a tax will be more easily levied ; and they spare those , whom idleness has made indigent . Reverse this mistaken and injurious conduct , which oppresses virtue , rewards vice , and encourages a supineness , that is equally fatal to the king , and to the state . Let your taxes be heavy upon those who neglect the cultivation of their lands ; and add , to your taxes , fines , and other penalties if it is necessary ; punish the negligent and the idle , as you would the soldier who should desert his post . On the contrary , distinguish those , who , in proportion as their families multiply , cultivate their lands with the greater diligence , by special privileges and immunities ; every family will then become numerous ; and every one will be animated to labour , not by the desire of gain only , but of honour : the state of husbandry being no

males de la fatiga fenecen con el dia , el reposo del sueño sosiega los cuidados enojosos , encanta , y tiene atada á la naturaleza con suave hechizo : duermen todos sin sobresalto de los trabajos del dia siguiente.

¡ Felices hombres , sin soberbia , sin desconfianza , sin artificio , con que les concedan los dioses un buen Rey , que no altere su inocente alegría ! Pero qué inhumanidad tan horrible es quitarles por fuerza , para satisfacer los designios del fausto y de la soberbia , los agradables frutos de la tierra , que no perciben ellos sino de la libertad de la naturaleza , y del sudor de su rostro ! La naturaleza sola le produciria de su fecundo seno todo lo que fuese necesario á un número infinito de hombres moderados y laboriosos ; pero el orgullo y afeminacion de algunos , pone á tan grande número de los otros en una horrorosa pobreza.

Mas qué haré , preguntaba Idomenéo , si las gentes que pondré yo en una fecunda campaña , se descuidan de cultivarla ?

Haced , respondió Mentor , todo lo contrario de aquello que comunmente suele hacerse. Los Príncipes avaros y sin providencia , no discurren sino en gravar con imposiciones aquellos súbditos suyos , que son mas vigilantes é industriosos en aumentarles las rentas y el poder , porque esperan de esos satisfacción mas pronta , y al mismo tiempo gravan á los que la pereza hace mas miserables. Trocad este mal orden que oprime á los buenos , remunera á los viciosos , é introduce una negligencia tan funesta al Rey mismo , como á todo su estado junto. Imponed tachas y penas particulares , y aun tambien , si conviene , rigurosos castigos , contra los que descuidan de sus campos , como castigaréis á los soldados que en la guerra dexaren sus puestos. Conceded gracias y esenciones á las familias que se multiplican : aumentad el cultivo de sus terrenos proporcionadamente ; y bien presto se multiplicarán las familias , animaráse todo el pueblo al trabajo , y se hará tambien honrado en su ministerio. La profesion del labrador no será ya despreciada , no siendo

longer wretched, will no longer be contemptible; the plough, once more held in honour, will be guided by the victorious hands that have defended the country; and it will not be less glorious to cultivate a paternal inheritance in the security of peace, than to draw the sword in its defence, when it is endangered by war. The whole country will bloom around you: the golden ears of ripe corn will again crown the temples of Ceres; Bacchus will tread the grapes in rich clusters under his feet; and wine, more delicious than nectar; will flow from the hills like a river: the vallies will resound to the song of the shepherds, who, dispersed along the banks of a transparent stream, shall join their voices with the pipe, while their flocks shall frolic round them, and feast upon the flowery pasture without fear of the wolf.

«O Idomeneus! will it not make you supremely happy, to be the source of such prosperity: to stretch your protection, like the shadow of a rock, over so many people, who will repose under it in security and peace? Will you not, in the consciousness of this, enjoy a noble elevation of mind, a calm sense of superior glory; such as can never touch the bosom of the tyrant, who lives only to desolate the earth, and who diffuses, not less through his own dominions, than those which he conquers from others, carnage and tumult, horror and anguish, consternation, famine, and despair?

Happy, indeed, is the prince, whom his own greatness of soul, and the distinguishing favour of the gods, shall render thus the delight of his people, and the example of succeeding ages! The world, instead of taking up arms to oppose his power, will be found prostrate at his feet, and suing to be subject to his dominion.»

«But,» said Idomeneus, «when the people shall be thus blessed with plenty and peace, will not their happiness corrupt their manners; will they not turn against me, the very strength I have given them?»

«There is no reason to fear that,» said Mentor; «the sycophants of prodigal princes, have suggested it as a pretence for oppression; but it may easily be

ya oprimida de tantos males : se verá de nuevo en precio el arado, manejado de manos que habrán sido victoriosas de los enemigos de la Patria, y no será ménos decente cultivar las heredades de los mayores en una paz feliz, que haberlas generosamente defendido entre las turbulencias de la guerra. Reflorecerá toda la campaña, se adornará de doradas espigas la tierra : las uvas oprimidas de los pies, harán correr el vertiente de las montañas arroyos de vino, mas suave que el nectar ; y los profundos valles resonarán con la armonía de los pastores, los quales á la orilla de pequeños raudales cantarán con el son de la zampoña sus placeres y afanes, en tanto que trochando sus reses, se apacentarán entre yerbas y flores, sin temor de los lobos.

¿ No seréis llenamente feliz, Idomenéo, siendo la causa de tantos bienes, haciendo vivir á tantos pueblos en amable reposo á la sombra de vuestro nombre ?
¿ Y no es mas deseable esta gloria, que la de saquear la tierra, de derramar por todo, y casi tanto en el propio pais en medio de las mismas victorias, quanto en el de los extrangeros vencidos, el estrago, el tumulto, el horror, la tristeza, el espanto, la desesperacion y la hambre cruel ?

¡ O feliz de aquel Rey tan favorecido de los dioses, y á quien han otorgado corazon harto grande, para querer ser las delicias del pueblo, y mostrar á todos los siglos un tan agradable espectáculo baxo de su Rey, nado ! Toda la tierra, en vez de defenderse peleando, por no someterse á su potencia, vendria á sus pies á rogarle que quisiera reynar sobre ella.

¿ Pero cuándo los pueblos, dudaba Idomenéo, esten así en paz y en abundancia, los viciarán las delicias, y volverán contra mí aquellas fuerzas que les habré dado ?

No temais, respondió Mentor, que os suceda tan grande desórden : este es pretexto, que siempre se alega, para adular á los Príncipes pródigos, que quie-

prevented. The laws which we have established with respect to agriculture will render life laborious ; and the people , notwithstanding their plenty ; will abound only in what is necessary , for we have prohibited the arts that furnish superfluities : and the plenty even of necessities will be restrained within due bounds , by the facility of marriage , and the multiplication of families. In proportion as a family becomes numerous , their portion of land being still the same in extent , a more diligent cultivation will become necessary ; and this will require incessant labour. Luxury and idleness only render people insolent and rebellious ; They will have bread , indeed , and they will have bread enough ; but they will have nothing more , except what they can gain , from their own ground , by the sweat of their brow.

« That your people may continue in this state of mediocrity , it will be necessary that you should now limit the extent of ground that each family is to possess. We have , you know , divided your people into seven classes , according to their different conditions , and each family , in each class , must be permitted to possess only such an extent of ground , as is absolutely necessary to subsist it. This regulation being inviolably observed , the nobles can never get possession of the lands of the poor : every one will have land ; but so much only , as will make a diligent cultivation necessary. If , in a long course of years , the people should be so much increased , that land cannot be found for them at home , they may be sent to form colonies abroad ; which will be a new advantage to the mother country.

« I am of opinion that care should be taken , even to prevent wine from being too common in your kingdom : if you find that too many vines are planted , you should cause them to be grubbed up. Some of the most dreadful mischiefs that afflict mankind , proceed from wine , it is the cause of disease , quarrels , sedition , idleness , aversion to labour , and every species of domestic disorder. Let wine then be considered as a kind of medicine ; or as a scarce liquor , to be used only at the sacrifices of the gods , or in seasons of pu-

ten cargar á sus vasallos de imposiciones. El remedio es fácil. Las leyes, que ahora hemos establecido para la agricultura, harán laboriosa su vida, y en su abundancia no tendrán sino lo que les será necesario, supuesto que quitamos todas las artes que pueden suministrar lo superfluo. Esta misma abundancia se disminuirá con la facilidad de los matrimonios, y multiplicacion grande de las familias. Componiéndose cada familia de muchas personas, y teniendo poco terreno, habrá necesidad de cultivarlo con un trabajo no interrumpido. La afeminacion y el ocio, son las que hacen insolentes los pueblos, y los hacen rebeldes. Ellos verdaderamente tendrán pan, y con mucha abundancia; pero no tendrán sino pan y frutos de su propio terreno, ganados con el sudor de su propio rostro.

Para tener vuestro Reyno en esta moderacion, conviene dar ahora reglas, respecto de aquel trecho de tierra que podrá poseer cada familia. ¿Sabeis que hemos hecho la division de vuestros vasallos en siete órdenes, correspondientes á sus siete condiciones? No conviene permitir á cada familia de cada uno de esos ordenes, que posea sino cierta extension de terreno, que será necesaria absolutamente para alimentar el número de personas de que se compusiere. Siendo inviolable esta regla, los nobles no podrán hacer adquisiciones en perjuicio de los pobres: tendrán todos algun terreno; pero tendrá cada uno muy poco, y eso le obligará á cultivarlo bien. Si despues de algun tiempo faltára aquí el terreno, se fundarán colonias, que aumentarán el poder del estado.

Creo también que debeis atender á que no se vulgarece demasiado el vino dentro de vuestro Reyno. Si se han plantado sobradas viñas, es menester que se arranquen. El vino es el origen de los mayores males de los pueblos, ocasiona las enfermedades, los pleytos, las sediciones, el ocio, el aborrecimiento al trabajo, y el desorden de las familias. Consérvase pues el vino como una especie de remedio, ó como un rarísimo licor, que no se deberá usar sino en los sacrificios, ó en las fiestas extraordinarias. Pero no confieis de hacer

blic festivity. Do not, however, flatter yourself, that this regulation can ever take place without the sanction of your own example.

« The laws of Minos, with respect to the education of children, must also be inviolably preserved : public schools must be established, to teach them the fear of the gods ; the love of their country ; a reverence for the laws ; and a preference of honour not only to pleasure, but to life. »

Magistrates must be appointed, to superintend the conduct, not of every family only, but every person ; you must keep also your own eye upon them ; for you are a king, only to be the shepherd of your people, and to watch over your flock night and day. By this unremitted vigilance, you will prevent many disorders and many crimes ; such as you cannot prevent, you must immediately punish with severity ; for, in this case, severity to the individual is clemency to the public : it stops those irregularities at their source, which would deluge the country with misery and guilt ; the taking away of one life, upon a proper occasion, will be the preservation of many ; and will make a prince sufficiently feared, without general or frequent severity.

It is a detestable maxime, that the security of the prince depends only upon the oppression of the people. Should no care be taken to improve their knowledge or their morals, instead of being taught to love him, whom they are born to obey ; should they be driven by terror to despair ; and reduced to the dreadful necessity of either throwing off the yoke of their tyrant, or perishing under its weight ? Can this be the way to reign with tranquillity ? can this be the path that leads to glory ?

« Remember, that the sovereign who is most absolute, is always least powerful : he seizes upon all, and his grasp is ruin. He is, indeed, the sole proprietor of whatever his state contains ; but, for that reason, his state contains nothing of value : the fields are uncultivated, and almost a desert ; the towns lose some of their few inhabitants every day ; and trade every day declines. The king, who must cease to be a

observar una regla tan importante , si primero vos mismo no diereis el exemplo á vuestros vasallos.

En lo demas importa hacer guardar inviolablemente las leyes de Minos , respecto á la educacion de los hijos. Será importante fundar escuelas públicas, donde se les enseñe el temor de los dioses , el amor de la patria , el respeto á las leyes , el preferir la honra á los deleites y á la propia vida.

Es menester tambien que haya magistrados que velen sobre las familias , y las costumbres de la personas particulares. Velad vos mismo , que no sois Rey , esto es , Pastor del pueblo , sino para velar continuamente sobre vuestra grey. Con eso prevendréis una infinidad de desórdenes y de delitos : los que no pudiereis prevenir , castigadlos con prontitud y severamente. Es especie de clemencia hacer luego exemplares , que detengan el curso de la iniquidad. Con un poco de sangre derramada oportunamente , se ahorra mucha , que de otra suerte se derramaría ; y se pone el Rey en estado de ser temido , sin necesidad de usar frecuentemente del rigor.

Pero , ¿ ó qué terrible máxima es creer que no se ha de hallar la seguridad propia , sino en la opresion de los pueblos ! El no hacer que tengan enseñanza : el no encaminarlos á la virtud : el no hacerse amar de ellos : el llevarlos con el terror hasta la desesperacion ; y el reducirlos á la horrible necesidad , ó de no poder respirar jamas libremente , ó de sacudir el yugo de la tiranía del Príncipe : ¿ qué señorío es este ? ¿ Se llega , por ventura , á la gloria por esta via ?

Acordaos que los países , en los quales el dominio del soberano es mas absoluto , son tambien aquellos , en que los soberanos son ménos poderosos. Ellos lo roban todo , todo lo arruinan , poseen solos todo el estado ; pero tambien todo el estado se desalienta : las campañas no están cultivadas , y estan casi desiertas : cada dia se disminuyen las ciudades , y el comercio para. El Rey , que solo no puede ser Rey , y que no

king when he ceases to have subjects, and who is great only in virtue of his people, is himself insensibly losing his character and his power, as the number of his people, from whom alone both are derived, insensibly diminishes; and his dominions are at length exhausted of money and of men: the loss of men, is the greatest, and the most irreparable he can sustain. Absolute power degrades every subject to a slave; the tyrant is flattered, even to an appearance of adoration; and every one trembles at the glance of his eye: but, at the least revolt, this enormous power perishes by its own excess. It derived no strength from the love of the people; it wearied and provoked all that it could reach; and rendered every individual of the state impatient of its continuance. At the first stroke of opposition, the idol is overturned, broken to pieces, and trodden under foot: contempt, hatred, fear, resentment, distrust, and every other passion of the soul, unite against so hateful a despotism. The king, who, in his vain prosperity, found no man bold enough to tell him the truth; in his adversity, finds no man kind enough to excuse his faults, or to defend him against his enemies »

Idomeneus then hastened to distribute his uncultivated lands, to people them with useful artificers: and to carry all the counsels of Mentor into execution; reserving for the builders, such parts as had been allotted them, which they were not to cultivate, till they had finished the city.

END OF VOLUME FIRST.

es tal, sino porque le hacen tal sus vasallos, se aniquila poco á poco á sí mismo, aniquilando insensiblemente á sus súbditos, de quienes saca su riqueza y potencia. Se vacia su estado de dinero y hombres, y esta última pérdida es la mayor y mas irreparable que todas las demas. Su absoluto poder hace tantos esclavos como tiene vasallos: finge uno que le adora, y tiembla de su mas mínima ojeada; pero aguardad á una revolucion: este poder monstruoso, conducido hasta el último extremo de la violencia, no puede ser durable. No tiene algun fundamento de esperanza en el corazon de las gentes: ha cansado, é irritado á todo el cuerpo del estado, y constriñe á todos los miembros de este cuerpo á desear con igual ardor una igual mutacion. Al primer golpe que se le tira, es derribado el idolo y pisado de todos. El desprecio, el odio, el temor, la saña, la desconfianza, y en una palabra, todas las pasiones se unen contra una autoridad tan odiosa. El Rey, que en su vana fortuna no encontraba ni aun uno solo que osára á decirle la verdad, no hallará en su desgracia alguno que se atreva á excusarlo, ó á defenderlo de sus enemigos.

Despues de este razonamiento se apresuró Idomeño, persuadido ya de Mentor, a distribuir los terrenos desamparados, á llenarlos de los artesanos inútiles, y á poner en execucion todo lo que se habia establecido. El reservó solamente para los albañiles las tierras que les habia destinado, y que no podian allos cultivar sino despues de acabadas sus obras en la ciudad.

FIN DEL TOMO PRIMERO.

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Telemachus
Sesoius
Mentor
Mecrops
Pygmalion
Astarbe

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